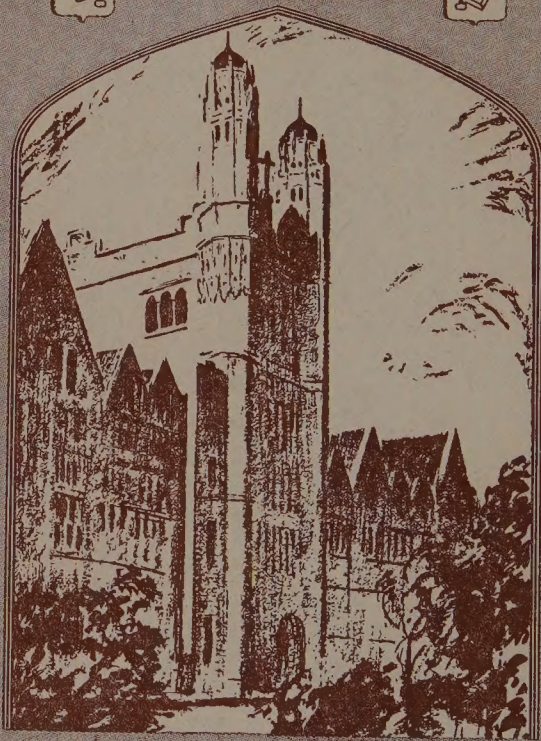


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T. MACCI PLAVTI MENAECHMI

THE
MENAECHMI OF PLAUTUS

With a Translation

BY

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INTRODUCTION.

TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS, the author of the "Menaechmi," lived from 264 to 184 B. C. He was born in Umbria, of poor but free parents. We may suppose that he went to Rome early in life to seek his fortune. At any rate, he is said to have been employed there in some service about a theatre. We are told by Gellius that he made a small fortune by stage decorating, but afterwards lost his money in speculation, and was compelled to work in a tread-mill for his daily bread. While engaged in this menial occupation, he wrote several plays, which brought sufficient fame and fortune to their author to enable him to devote himself for the rest of his life to the pursuit of his art.

Twenty of the comedies of Plautus are extant. They are all characterized by rollicking, broad fun. Plautus was the poet of the common folk, and portrays life in an unaffected, homely way. In accordance with the practice of Roman dramatists in his time, he borrowed the plots of his plays from the Greek. The Greek original of the "Menaechmi" is not known, but the preponderance of evidence seems to show that it was a comedy by Posidippus. The

"Menaechmi" belongs to the class of comedies known as *fabulae palliatae*, that is, it retains the costumes and setting of the Greek play from which it was taken, embodying only enough of Roman manners and customs to make it intelligible and interesting to the Roman audience. The inconsistencies that are of necessity present in plays thus made up do not seem to have been distasteful to the Romans.

The plot of the "Menaechmi" turns upon mistaken identity in the case of twin brothers. One of them, while still a child, had been stolen from his father and taken to Epidamnus; the other twin, when he arrived at manhood, came from Syracuse to Epidamnus in search of his brother. The two are constantly mistaken, the one for the other, by the friends of each, until in the last act the two happen on the stage together, and the mystery is solved. The plot is of special interest to the English reader, as having suggested that of Shakspeare's "Comedy of Errors." The "argument" preceding the text of the "Menaechmi" was probably not written by Plautus. It appears to have been added at a much later time, Ritschl thinks in the second century A. D.

There have been many translations and adaptations of the "Menaechmi" in modern times. R. Steinhoff gives no less than ten imitations in the Italian. The first of these, said to have been acted in 1486, was a translation entitled "Menechino di Plauto." Of the others mentioned,

some are translations more or less literal, while some resemble the original mainly in the fact that they have plots bringing out striking resemblances between characters. In the Spanish there is a "Comedia de los Menecmos," by Juan di Timoneda.

In the French, Rotrou's "Les Ménéchmes," (Paris, 1632,) is hardly more than a translation, although Erotium is made a rather stupid but amiable widow. Regnard's "Les Ménéchmes ou les jumeaux," (1705,) is a lively adaptation of the "Menaechmi" to the French life of the time. Other free French translations are those of Bour-sault and of Cailhava.

The first translation in English was entitled "Menaechmi, a pleasant and finely conceited comedie, taken out of the most excellent wittie Poet Plautus, chosen purposely from out the rest, as least harmefull, and yet most delightfull. Written in English by W. W. [supposed to be William Warner], London, printed by Tho. Creede, and are to be sold by William Barley at his shop in Gracious-streete. 1595." A "Historie of Error" was performed by the children of Paul's, "on New-yeres daie at night," 1576-7. Shakspeare's "Comedy of Errors" was probably produced in 1595. The chief points of difference between the "Menaechmi" and "The Comedy of Errors" are, that the part of Peniculus is entirely wanting in the latter, and that the part of Erotium in the "Menaechmi" is made much more prominent than that of the

corresponding character in Shakspeare's play. Shakspeare more than compensates for the loss of these two characters by the introduction of the two Dromios, who as servants of the two leading characters carry still further the complication of the plot arising from mistaken identity.

THE

MENAECHMI OF T. MACCIUS PLAUTUS.

T. MACCI PLAVTI MENAECMI.

ARGVMENTVM.

Mercátor Siculus, quóí erant gemini flíi,
Eí surrupto áltero mors óptigit.
Nomén surrupti índit illi, quí domist,
Auós paternus, fácit Menaechmum e Sósicle.
Et ís germanum, póstquam adoleuit, quaéritat 5
Circum ómnis oras. Póst Epidamnum déuenit:
Huc fúerat ductus ílle subreptícus.
Menaéchnum ciuem créduñt omnes áduenam,
Eúmque appellant méretrix, uxor ét socer.
Ibi sé cognoscunt frátres postremo ínuicem. 10

THE MENAECMI OF T. MACCIUS PLAUTUS.

ARGUMENT.

THERE was a Sicilian merchant who had twin sons. After one had been stolen the father died. The grandfather on the father's side gave the name of the stolen child to the one left at home, calling him Menaechmus instead of Sosicles.

This son, after he had grown up, seeks his brother all over the world. Finally he comes to Epidamnus, whither the stolen youth had been taken. All residents of Epidamnus believe that the stranger is their citizen Menaechmus, and as such, mistress, wife, and father-in-law address him. There the brothers at last recognize each other.

PERSONAE.

PENICVLVS PARASITVS

MENAECHMVS I.

MENAECHMVS II. (SOSICLES)

} ADVLESCENTES

EROTIVM MERETRIX

CYLINDRVS COQVOS

MESSENIO SERVOS

ANCILLA

MATRONA

SENEX

MEDICVS.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

PENICULUS	. . . . .	<i>A parasite, hanger-on to Menaechmus I.</i>
MENAECHMUS I.	. . . . .	<i>A citizen of Epidamnus,</i>
MENAECHMUS II.	. . . . .	<i>(Sosicles) a citizen of Syracuse,</i>
EROTIUM	. . . . .	<i>A woman, loved by Menaechmus I.</i>
CYLINDRUS	. . . . .	<i>A cook, servant of Erotium.</i>
MESSENIUS	. . . . .	<i>A slave of Menaechmus Sosicles.</i>

A maid-servant of Erotium; a matron, wife of Menaechmus I.; an old man, father-in-law of Menaechmus I.; a physician, slaves, sailors.

SCENE. *At Epidamnus, a Greek city in Illyria, on the east coast of the Adriatic Sea.*

TIME, *about 215 B. C.*

CAST OF CHARACTERS,

As taken by Members of the Sophomore Class of the University of Michigan, 1890.

PENICULUS	. . . . .	<i>Wilhelm Miller.</i>
MENAECHMUS I.	. . . . .	<i>Frank Carpenter Smith.</i>
MENAECHMUS II.	. . . . .	<i>Richard Sumner Parmly.</i>
EROTIUM	. . . . .	<i>James Edward Ferris.</i>
CYLINDRUS	. . . . .	<i>Clarence Linton Meader.</i>
MESSENIUS	. . . . .	<i>Samuel Mumford Trevellick.</i>
MATRON	. . . . .	<i>John Barnes Miller.</i>
OLD MAN	. . . . .	<i>Alfred Courtney Lewerenz.</i>
PHYSICIAN	. . . . .	<i>Day Krolik.</i>
MAID-SERVANT	. . . . .	<i>Frank Bates Whipple.</i>

PROLOGVS.

Salútem primum iam á principio própítiam
Mihi átque uobis, spéctatores, núntio.
Adpórto uobis Plaútum lingua, nón manu :
Quaeso út benignis áccipiatís aúribus.
Nunc árgumentum accípíte atque animum aduórtíte : 5
Quam pótero in uerba cónferam paucíssuma.

Atque hóc poetae fáciunt in comoédiis :
Omnís res gestas ésse Athenis aútumant,
Quo uóbis illud graécum uideatúr magis.
Ego núsquam dicam, nísi ubi factum dícitur. 10
Atque ádeo hoc arguméntum graecissát : tamen
Non átticissat : uérum siceílissát tamen.
Huic argumento antelogium hoc fuit :
Nunc árgumentum uóbis demensúm dabo,
Non módio neque trimódio, uerum ipso hórreo : 15
Tanta ád narrandum argúmentum adest benígnitas.

Mercátor quidam fuít Syracusís senex.
Eí sunt nati filii geminí duo,
Ita fóрма simili púeri, uti matér sua
Non ínternosse pósset quae mammám dabat, 20

NOTE. — The Prologue as it now stands is believed to have been made up from two earlier prologues. In order to render it more consistent, and also to shorten it, the parts that do not seem necessary to a proper understanding of the play are omitted in the rendering. The omissions are made in accordance with the suggestions of Dziatzko, with the exception that lines 47, 48, and 72-76 are retained.

PROLOGUE.

IN the first place, spectators, at the very outset, I wish excellent health to you and to myself. I bring you Plautus on my tongue, not in my hand. I beg you to receive him with indulgent ears. Now give me your attention and learn the argument. I shall set it forth in as few words as possible.

There was at Syracuse a certain merchant, well on in years, to whom twin sons were born. The boys were so alike in appearance that their own mother, who nursed them, could not distinguish between them.

Neque ádeo mater ípsa quae illos pépererat;
Vt quídem ille dixit míhi, qui pueros uíderat:
Ego illós non uidi, né quis uostrum cénseat.
Postquám iam pueri séptuennés súnt, pater
Oneráuit nauim mágnam multis mércibus. 25
Inpónit geminum álterum in nauém pater,
Taréntum auexit sécum ad mercatúm simul:
Illúm reliquit álterum apud matrém domi.
Tarénti ludi fórte erant, quom illúc uenit:
Mortáles multi, ut ád ludos, conuénerant: 30
Puer ínter homines íbi aberrauit á patre.
Epidámniensis quídam ibi mercatór fuit:
Is púerum tollit áuehitque Epidámnum eum.
Pater éius autem póstquam puerum pérdidit,
Animúm despondit: eáque is aegritúdine 35
Paucís diebus póst Tarenti emórtuost.
Postquám Syracusas de eá re rediit núntius
Ad auóm puerorum, púerum surruptum álterum,
Patrémque pueri Tárenti esse emórtuom,
Immútat nomen huíc auos gemino álteri. 40
Ita illúm dilexit, quí subruptust, álterum:
Illíus nomen índit illi quí domist,
Menaéchmo, idem quod álteri nomén fuit;
Et ípsus eodemst áuos uocatus nómine.
Proptérea illius nómen memini fácilius, 45
Quia illúm clamore uídi flagitárier.
Ne móx erretis, iám nunc praedicó prius:
Idémst ambobus nómen geminis frátribus.

When the boys were now seven years old, the father loaded a large ship with much merchandise. He put one of the twins also on board the ship, and took the lad with him to Tarentum, on a trading voyage. It chanced that when the ship reached Tarentum, games were being held there, and many people, as is usually the case, had assembled to witness them. The boy wandered away from his father, and was picked up and carried off to Epidamnus, by a merchant of that city who was attending the games. After the father lost his boy, he became despondent, and died of grief a few days later at Tarentum.

When the news was brought back to Syracuse, to their grandfather, that one of the boys had been stolen, and that the father had died at Tarentum, the grandfather changed the name of the other twin. Out of love for the lost boy he called the lad that was left at home Menaechmus, instead of Sosicles. That you may make no mistake hereafter, even now at this point I inform you that both brothers have the same name.

ACTVS I.

SCAENA I.

PENICVLVS.

Iuuéntus nomen fécit Peniculó mihi
Ideó quia mensam, quádo edo, detérgeo.

Hominés captiuos quí catenis uínciunt,
Et quí fugitiuis séruis indunt cómpedes, 80
Nimis stúlte faciunt meá quidem senténtia.
Nam hoc hómini misero si ád malum accedit malum,
Maiór lubidost fúgere et facere néquiter.
Nam se éx catenis éximunt aliquó modo:
Tum cómpediti aut ánum lima praéterunt 85
Aut lápide excutiunt cláuom: naugae súnt eae.
Quem tu ádseruare récte, ne aufugiát, uoles,
Esca átque potióne uincirí decet:
Apud ménsam plenam homóni rostrum déliges.
Dum tu illi, quod edit ét quod potet, praébeas 90
Suo árbitratud ád fatim cottídie,
Numquam édepol fugiet, tam étsi capital fécerit:
Facile ádseruabis, dúm eo uinclo uíncies.
Ita istaéc nimis lenta uíncula sunt escária:
Quam mágis extendas, tánto adstringunt ártius. 95
Nam ego ád Menaechmum hunc núnc eo, quo iám diu

ACT I.

SCENE I.

A street in Epidamnus. The house at the right of the audience belongs to MENAECHMUS of Epidamnus, the one at the left belongs to EROTIUM. The street on the right leads to the Forum (market-place), the one on the left to the harbor.

Enter PENICULUS from the Forum.

Pen. (*Soliloquizes.*) The boys have given me the name Peniculus¹ because when I eat I sweep the table clean. Men that bind captives with chains and put shackles on fugitive slaves act very foolishly, in my opinion at least. For if a wretched man has insult added to injury, he will have a greater desire to run away or to act badly. Bondmen get out of their chains in some way or other; they cut through the ring of their shackles with a file, or strike off the fastening with a stone. All precautions are useless. If you wish to guard a man properly that he may not run away, you should bind him with food and drink; you can fasten a man's nose to a full table. So long as you give him something to eat and drink, at his own pleasure, to satiety every day, by heavens, he will never run away, even if he has committed a capital crime. You will easily keep him, if you bind him with that chain. These food chains are so very elastic the more you stretch them, the more tightly they bind.

Therefore I am going to this man Menaechmus, to whom

¹ i. e. "table-brush," "swiper."

Nunc ín Epidamnum pédibus redeundúmst mihi,
Vt hanc rem uobis éxamussim díspudem. 50
Si quís quid uostrum Epidámni curarí sibi
Velít, audacter ímperato et dícito :
Sed ita út det, unde cúrari id possít sibi.
Nam nísi qui argentum déderit, nugas égerit :
Qui déderit, magis maióres nugas égerit. 55
Verum illuc redeo, unde ábii, atque uno adsto ín loco.
Epidámniensis ille, quem dudum díxeram,
Geminum illum puerum quí surrupuit álterum,
Ei liberorum, nísi diuitiae, níl erat.
Adóptat illum púerum surruptícium 60
Sibi filium eique uxórem dotatám dedit,
Eúmque heredem fécit, quom ipse obiít diem.
Nam rús ut ibat fórte, ut multum plúerat,
Ingréssus fluuium rápidum ab urbe haud lóngule,
Rapidús raptori púeri subduxít pedes 65
Apstráxitque hominem in máxumam malám crucem.
Ita illi diuitiae éuenerunt máxumae.
Is illic habitat géminus surruptícíus.
Nunc ille geminus, quí Syracusís habet,
Hodie ín Epidamnum uéniet cum seruó suo 70
Hunc quaéritatum géminum germanúm suom.
Haec úrbs Epidamnus ést, dum haec agitur fábula :
Quando ália agetur, áliud fiet óppidum ;
Sicút familiae quóque solent mutárier :
Modó hic ágitat leno, módo adulescens, módo senex, 75
Paupér mendicus, réx, parasitus, áriolus.

That merchant of Epidamnus whom I just mentioned, who stole Menaechmus, had no children except his riches. He adopted the stolen boy as his own son, gave him a dowered wife, and willed his property to him.

The twin that was stolen dwells here. The twin that lives at Syracuse will come to-day to Epidamnus with his slave, to seek his twin brother. This city is Epidamnus, while this play is on; when another is brought out, it will become another town. Just so actors also change their parts; at one time one acts the procurer, again the youth, then the old man, or poor beggar, or king, or parasite, or soothsayer.

Sum iúdicatus: últro eo, ut me uínciat.
 Nam illíc homo homones nón alit, uerum éducat
 'Recreátque: nullus mélius medicinám facit.
 Itást adulescens: ípsus escae máxumae, 100
 Ceriális cenas dát: ita mensas éxstruit,
 Tantás struices cónciūnat patinárias:
 Standúmst in lecto, sí quid de summó petas.
 Sed mi ínteruallum iam hós dies multós fuit:
 Domí dum invitus sum úsque cum carís meis: 105
 Nam néque edo neque emo, nísi quod est caríssimum.
 Sed quóniam cari, qui ínstruontur, déserunt,
 Nunc ád eum inuiso. Séd aperitur óstium:
 Menaéchmum eccum ipsum uídeo: progreditúr foras.



SCAENA II.

MENAECHMVS I. PENICVLVS.

Men. Ni mála, ni stulta sis, ni índomita 110
 Impósque animi, quod uíro esse odio
 Videás, tute tibi odio hábeas.
 Praéterhac sí mihi tále post hunc diem
 Fáxis, faxó foris uídua uisás patrem:
 Nam quótiens foras iré uolo, 115
 Me rétines, reuocas, rógitas,
 Quó ego eam, quám rem agam, quíd negotí geram,

now for some time I have been adjudged. I am going of my own accord in order that he may bind me. For that man does not simply feed men; he nourishes them and creates them anew; no one gives medicine better. He himself is a young man of lordly appetite, and he gives banquets fit for Ceres. He builds up such tablesful and sets such piles of dishes, that you must stand on the couch if you want anything from the top.

But now there has been an interval of many days with me while I have unwillingly remained at home with my dear ones,—for everything that I eat or buy is very dear. But since my dear ones, that are arrayed before me, run away, I am now going to see him. But the door is opening; lo, I see Menaechmus himself; he is coming out of doors.



SCENE II.

Enter MENAECHEMUS of Epidamnus, from his house, wearing his wife's mantle under his own cloak. He stands at the door and scolds at his wife in the house.

Men. If you weren't a vixen, if you weren't an idiot, if you weren't unruly and out of your head, that which you see is disagreeable to your husband you would consider disagreeable to yourself. Furthermore, if after to-day you act so toward me, I'll warrant you shall go as a grass-widow to your father's house. For whenever I want to go away from home you stop me, call me back, ask me where I am going, what I am going to do, what business I have, what I am go-

Quíd petam, quíd feram, quíd foris égerim.

Pórtitorém domum dúxi: ita omném mihi

Rém necesse éloquist, quícquid egi átque ago. 120

Nímium ego te habui délicatam. Núnc adeo, ut factúrus,
dicam.

Quando égo tibi ancillás, penum,

Lanam, aúrum, uestem, púrpuram

Bene praébeo nec quícquam eges,

Maló cauebis, sí sapis: 125

Virum óbseruare désines.

Átque adeo, ne mé nequicquam sérues, ob eam indústriam
Hódie ducam scórtum atque ad cenam áliquo condicám
foras.

Pen. Íllic homo se uxóri simulat mále loqui, loquitúr
mihi:

Nám si foris cenát, profecto me, haúd uxorem, ulcéscitur. 130

Men. Eúax, iurgio hércle tandem uxórem abegi ab iánua.

Vbi súnt amatorés mariti? Dóna quid cessánt mihi

Conférre omnes congrátulantes, quía pugnaui fórtiter?

Hánc modo uxori íntus pallam súrrupui: ad scortúm
fero.

Sic huíc decet darí facete uérba custodí catae. 135

Hoc fácinus pulcrumst, hóc probumst, hoc lépidumst, hoc
factúmst fabre:

Meó malo a mala ábstuli hoc: ad amícam deferétur.

Auórti praedam ab hóstibus nostrúm salute sócium.

Pen. Heús adulescens, écqua in istac párs inest praemí
mihi?

ing after, what I shall bring back, what I have done away from home. I have married an inspector of customs, — so necessary is it for me to tell everything that I have done or am doing.

I have made too much of a pet of you. Now, indeed, I shall tell you what I am going to do. Since I provide you well with maid-servants, food, clothing, money, drapery, purple, and since you are in want of nothing, you will look out for trouble, if you are wise; you will quit watching your husband. And, too, that you may not watch me to no purpose, on account of your officiousness I shall to-day find a woman and arrange for a dinner somewhere away from home.

Pen. (*Aside.*) This man pretends that he is scolding his wife; he is talking at me, for if he dines away from home, he certainly is punishing me, not his wife.

Men. (*Starting away from the door.*) Hurra! by gracious, I have at last driven my wife away from the door by my taunts. Where are these intriguing husbands? Why don't they all bring gifts and congratulations to me, because I have fought so bravely? Thus ought one skilfully to deceive this cunning guardian. It was an excellent trick, it was commendable, it was charming, it was well executed (*lifting up his cloak he exposes the mantle*). I have stolen this from the vixen to my own loss; it shall be taken to my mistress. I have taken spoil from the enemy to the profit of our allies.

Pen. (*Coming forward.*) Hey, young man! What share, pray, have I in that spoil?

Men. Périi, in insidiás deueni. **Pen.** Immo ín praesidium. Né time. 140

Men. Quís homost? **Pen.** Ego sum. **Men.** O meá commoditas, ó mea opportúnitas,

Salue. **Pen.** Salue. **Men.** Quid agis? **Pen.** Teneo déxtera geniúm meum.

Men. Nón potuisti mágis per tempus mi áduenire quam áduenis.

Pen. Íta ego soleo: cómmoditatis ómnis articulós scio.

Men. Vín tu facinus lúculentum inspícere? **Pen.** Quis id coxít coquos? 145

Iám sciam, si quíd titubatumst, úbi reliquias uídero.

Men. Díc mi, en umquam tú uidisti tábulam pictam in páriete,

Vbi aquila Catameítum raperet, aút ubi Venus Adóneum?

Pen. Saépe. Sed quid istae picturae ad me áttinent?

Men. Age me áspice.

Écquid adsimuló similiter? **Pen.** Quís istest ornatús tuos? 150

Men. Díc hominem lepidíssimum esse méd. **Pen.** Vbi essurí sumus?

Men. Díc modo hoc quod égo te iubeo. **Pen.** Díco: homo lepidíssume.

Men. Écquid audes dé tuo istuc áddere? **Pen.** Atque hilaríssume.

Men. Péрге. **Pen.** Non pergo hércle uero, nési scio qua grátia.

Lítigium tibíst cum uxore: eo mi ábs te caueo caútius. 155

Men. (*Turning away.*) Heavens! I have fallen into an ambuscade.

Pen. Oh, no! into a barricade; don't be scared.

Men. (*Turning around.*) Who is this?

Pen. It's I.

Men. (*Clasping his hand.*) Oh my vantage! Oh my opportunity! Welcome!

Pen. Welcome!

Men. How do you do?

Pen. I hold my good angel by the right hand.

Men. You could n't have come at a better time than this.

Pen. That's my style, I know all the points of vantage.

Men. Do you want to see something tasty?

Pen. What cook has cooked it? I shall know as soon as I see what remains, whether or not any blunder has been made.

Men. Tell me, have you ever seen the picture painted in fresco, where the eagle carries off Ganymede, or where Venus carries away Adonis?

Pen. Often; but what are those pictures to me?

Men. Come, look at me. Do I seem at all like them?

Pen. What's that attire of yours?

Men. Say that I am a very charming man.

Pen. Where are we going to eat?

Men. Say just what I tell you.

Pen. I say it, you are a most charming man.

Men. Don't you dare add something of your own to that?

Pen. And a jolly good fellow.

Men. Go on.

Pen. No, by the gods! I won't go on, unless I know the reason why. You have a quarrel with your wife; on that account I am the more on my guard against you.

Men.

Clam úxorem ubi sepúlcrum habeamus, hunc comburamús diem.

Pen. Áge sane igitur, quádo aequom oras, quámmox incendó rogum?

Díes quidem iam ad úmbilicum est dímidíatus mórtuos.

Men. Té morare, míhi quom obloquere. **Pen.** Óculum ecfodito pér solum 160

Míhi, Menaechme, si úllum uerbum fáxo, nisi quod iússeris.

Men. Cóncede huc a fóribus. **Pen.** Fiat. **Men.** Étiam concede húc. **Pen.** Licet.

Men. Étiam nunc concéde audacter áb leonínó cauo.

Pen. Eú, edepol ne tu, út ego opinor, ésses agitatór probus.

Men. Quídum? **Pen.** Ne te uxór sequatur, réspectas idéntidem. 165

Men. Séd quid ais? **Pen.** Egone? íd enim quod tu uís, id aio atque íd nego.

Men. Élocutu's.

Núnc ad amicam déferetur hánc meretricem Erótium.

Míhi, tibi atque illí iubebo iam ádparari prándium:

Índe usque ad diúrnam stellam crástinam potábimus.

Pen. Eú, expedite fábulatu's. Iám foris ferio? **Men.** Feri, 180

Vél mane etiam. **Pen.** Mílle passum cómmoratu's cáutharum.

Men. Plácide pulta. **Pen.** Métuis credo, né fores Samiaé sient.

Men. Don't be afraid; if we are denied the house, still there is a place near here, where we may, without the knowledge of my wife, burn this day on its funeral pyre and hold a wake over the ashes.

Pen. Well, come then! since you ask the fair thing, how soon shall I light the pyre? The day is already half dead.

Men. You yourself cause the delay by talking to me.

Pen. Punch out my eye through the sole of my foot, Menaechmus, if I say a single word to you unless you order it!

Men. (*Motioning to him.*) Come here, away from the door.

Pen. So be it.

Men. (*Motioning again.*) Come still further this way.

Pen. All right.

Men. (*Impatiently.*) Now retreat boldly from the den of the lioness.

Pen. Ah! by hokey! according to my notion, surely you would make an excellent charioteer. **Men.** Why, pray?

Pen. You keep looking around now and then to see that your wife is not following.

Men. Well, what say you?

Pen. I? Whatever forsooth you desire, that do I say and that deny.

Men. Well said! This mantle shall now be carried to my dear mistress Erotium. I shall give orders that a feast be spread soon for you, for her, and for myself. There we shall drink until the rising of to-morrow's morning star.

Pen. Good! you have spoken to the point. Shall I knock at the door now?

Men. Yes, but wait a moment.

Pen. You've put the bowl a mile away.

Men. Tap gently.

Pen. You are afraid, I suppose, that the doors are of Samian ware!

Men. Máne mane, obsecro hércle: eapse eccam éxit.
 Ah, solém uide,
 Sátin ut occaecátust prae huius córporis candóribus?



SCAENA III.

EROTIVM. PENICVLVS. MENAECHMVS I.

Ero. Ánime mei, Menaéchme, salue. **Pen.** Quíd ego?

Ero. Extra numerum és mihi. 185

Pen. Ídem istuc aliis ádscriptiuis fíeri ad legioném solet.

Men. Égo isti ac mihi hodie ádparari iússim apud te
 proélium.

Ero. Hódie id fiet. **Men.** Ín eo uterque proélio potá-
 bimus.

Úter ibi meliór bellator érit inuentus cántharo,
 Túos est: legito ac iúdicato, cúm utrod hanc noctém
 sies. 190

Út ego uxorem, méa uoluptas, úbi te aspicio, odí male.

Ero. Ínterim nequís quin eius áliquíd indutús sies.

Quíd hoc est? **Men.** Induuiáé tuae atque uxóris exu-
 uiaé, rosa.

Ero. Súperas facile, ut súperior sis míhi quam quisquam
 qui ímpetrant.

Pen. Méretrix tantispér blanditur, dúm illud quod rapiát
 uidet; 195

Nám si amabas, iám oportebat násum abreptum mórdicus.

Men. (*EROTIUM appears at the door of her house.*) Hold, hold, I beg you, by the gods! Look, she herself is coming out! Ah, see the sun! Isn't it completely darkened by comparison with the brilliancy of her beauty?



SCENE III.

Enter EROTIUM from her house.

Ero. My own dear Menaechmus, welcome!

Pen. What of me?

Ero. (*Turning away.*) You don't count.

Pen. But the same provision is made for the supernumeraries as for the soldiers.

Men. (*To EROTIUM.*) I should like to arrange a contest between him and me at your house to-day.

Ero. It shall be done to-day.

Men. In that contest we shall both drink. Whichever shall there be found the better warrior with the bowl is yours. Consider and decide with which one you will be to-night. (*Starting back in admiration.*) How I hate my wife, my darling, when I look at you!

Ero. (*Taking hold of the mantle.*) And yet, you can't help wearing something of hers (*lifting it up*). What is this?

Men. Spoil for you, my rosebud, of which I despoiled my wife.

Ero. You easily excel, as you are more excellent than any one else that courts me.

Pen. (*Aside.*) The woman is petting him a little, while she is looking to see what she can steal; (*to Erotium*) for, if you loved him, his nose would be off by this time with your biting him.

Men. Sústine hoc, Penícule : exuuias fácere quas uouí uolo.

Pen. Cédo, sed obsecro hércle, salta síc cum palla póstea.

Men. Égo saltabo ? sánus hercle nóñ es. **Pen.** Egone an tú magis ?

Sí non saltas, éxue igitur. **Men.** Nímio ego hanc perículo
200

Súrrupui hodie. Meó quidem animo ab Híppolyta subcín-
gulum

Hércules haud aéque magno umquam ábstulit perículo.

Cápe tibi hanc : quando úna uiuis meis morigera móribus.

Ero. Hóc animo decét animatos ésse amatorés probos.

Pen. Quí quidem ad mendícitatem sé properent detrú-
dere.
205

Men. Quáttuor minís ego istanc áнно emi uxori meae.

Pen. Quáttuor minae perierunt pláne, ut ratio rédditur.

Men. Scín quid uolo ego te áccurare ? **Ero.** Cédo, curabo quae uoles.

Men. Iúbe igitur tribus nóbis apud te prándium accurárier
Átque aliquid scitámentorum dé foro obsonárier :
210

Glándionidám suillum aut láridum pernónidam

Aút sinciputaménta porcina aút aliquid ad eúm modum,

Mádida quae mi adpósita in mensa míluinam súggerant.

Átque actutum. **Ero.** Lícet ecaster. **Men.** Nós pro-
dimus ád forum :

Iam híc nos erimus. Dúm coquetur, ínterim potábimus. 215

Ero. Quándo uis, uení : parata rés erit. **Men.** Properá modo.

Men. (*Takes off his own cloak.*) Hold this, Peniculus. I want to offer the spoils that I have vowed.

Pen. (*Taking it.*) All right; but, I beg you, dance as you are with the mantle on.

Men. I dance? By Hercules! you are crazy.

Pen. Am I, or rather you? If you don't dance (*taking hold of the mantle*), then take it off.

Men. (*Pushing him away.*) I have stolen this to-day at a mighty risk. In my opinion, indeed, Hercules did not incur so great a risk in stealing the girdle of Hippolyta (*takes off the mantle and hands it to EROTIVM.*) Take it as your own, since you are the only living creature congenial to my taste.

Ero. With this feeling ought true lovers to be inspired.

Pen. (*Aside.*) At least such as would rush headlong into beggary.

Men. I bought that for my wife last year for four minae.¹

Pen. (*Aside.*) The four minae are undoubtedly gone forever, according to the account rendered.

Men. (*To EROTIVM.*) Do you know what I would like to have you attend to?

Ero. Tell me; I will do what you desire.

Men. Arrange for a dinner at your house for us three. Get some dainties at the market-place,—a pork chop, or smoked ham, or hog's jowl, or something of that sort, which boiled tender and placed on the table will give a fellow the appetite of a hawk. And quickly too.

Ero. Certainly, it shall be done.

Men. (*Starting away.*) We are off for the Forum; we'll soon be back. While the meat is cooking we'll go and have a drink.

Ero. Come back when you please; everything will be ready.

Men. Please make haste.

¹ About \$75.

Séquere tu me. **Pen.** Ego hércle uero te ét seruabo et
té sequar,

Néque hodie, ut te pérdam, meream deórum diuitiás mihi.

Ero. Éuocate intús Cylindrum míhi coquom actutúm
foras.



SCAENA IV.

EROTIVM. CYLINDRVS.

Ero. Spórtulam cape átque argentum. Éccos tris nummós
habes. 220

Cyl. Hábeo. **Ero.** Abi atque obsónium adfer. Tríbus
uide quod sít satis:

Néque defiat néque supersit. **Cyl.** Quoius modi i homi-
nés erunt?

Ero. Égo, Menaechmus ét parasitus éius. **Cyl.** Iam
isti súnt decem.

Nám parasitus ócto homonum múnus facile fúngitur.

Ero. Élocuta súm conuiuas: céterum cura. **Cyl.** Íli-
cet. 225

Cócta sunt: iube íre accubitum. **Ero.** Rédi cito. **Cyl.**
Iam ego híc ero.

(To PENICULUS.) You follow me.

Pen. Yes, indeed, I shall certainly keep by you and follow you. I would n't lose you to-day for the wealth of the gods.
[*Exeunt.*]

Ero. (*Speaking to a slave in the house.*) Call my cook Cylindrus to the door quickly.

SCENE IV.

Enter CYLINDRUS from the house of EROTIVM.

Ero. Take a basket (*he steps back and gets one*), and money. Here you have three coins.

Cyl. (*Taking the money.*) Yes.

Ero. Go and buy provisions. Get enough for three, no more and no less.

Cyl. What sort of people are these to be?

Ero. Menaechmus, his parasite, and I.

Pen. Well, they make ten, for the parasite easily does duty for eight persons.

Ero. I have named the guests; you attend to the rest.

Cyl. At once. The things are as good as cooked. Tell the guests to go and recline on the couches.

Ero. Return quickly (*she goes into the house*).

Cyl. I shall be back immediately. (*Exit.*)

ACTVS II.

SCAENA I.

MENAECHEMVS II. MESSENIUS.

Men. Volúptas nullast náuitis, Messénio,
 Maiór meo animo, quám si quam ex altó procul
 Terrám conspiciunt. **Mes.** Máior, non dicám dolo,
 Si aduéniens terram uídeas, quae fuerít tua. 230

Sed quaéso, quamobrem núnc Epidamnum uénimus?
 An quási mare omnis círcumínus ínsulas?

Men. Fratrém quaesitum géminum germanúm meum.

Mes. Nam quíd modi futúrumst illum quaérere?
 Hic ánnus sextust, póstquam ei rei operám damus. 235

Histrós, Hispanos, Mássiliensis, Hílurios,
 Maré superum omne Graéciamque exóticam
 Orásque Italias ómnis, qua adgreditúr mare,
 Sumus círcumuecti. Seí acum, credo, quaérerés,
 Acum inuenisses, sei áppareret, iám diu. 240

Hominem ínter uiuos quaéritamus mórtuom:
 Nam inuénissemus iám diu, sei uiueret.

Men. Ergo istuc quaero cértum qui faciát mihi,
 Quei sése deicat scíre, eum esse emórtuom:
 Operám praeterea númquam sumam quaérere. 245
 Verum áliter uiuos númquam desistam éxsequi:
 Ego illum scio quam cárus sit cordí meo.

ACT II.

SCENE I.

Enter MENAECHEMUS II. (SOSICLES) of Syracuse and MESSENIO, his slave, from the harbor, with two sailors carrying baggage.

Men. Sos. In my opinion, Messenio, sailors have no greater pleasure than that felt on catching sight of land, when they are afar off on the deep.

Mes. There is a greater, (I shall speak plainly.) if on approaching, you see the land that has been your home. But, I beg of you, why have we now come to Epidamnus? Are we going around all islands as the sea does?

Men. Sos. I have come to seek my own twin brother.

Mes. What, pray, will be the end of the search for him? This is the sixth year since we commenced it. We have sailed around Istria, Spain, Marseilles, Illyria, all the Adriatic and Magna Graecia, and all Italian countries that the sea touches. If you were hunting a needle, you would have found it long ago, I believe, if it were in existence. You are seeking a dead man among the living; for, if your brother were alive, we should have found him long since.

Men. Sos. Well then, I am looking for some one who can assure me of that fact, who can say that he knows that my brother is dead. After that I'll trouble myself no more with the quest; but otherwise, I shall not give up the search so long as I live. I know how dear he is to my heart.

Mes. In scírpo nodum quaéris. Quin nos hinc domum
Redímus, nisi si históriam scripturí sumus?

Men. Dictum haú facessas dóctum, si caueás malo. 250
Moléstus ne sis: nón tuo hoc fiét modo.

Mes. Em, illoc enim uerbo ésse me seruóm scio:
Non pótuit paucis plúra plane próloqui.

Verúm tamen nequeo cóntineri quín loquar.
Audín, Menaechme? quom ínspectio marsúppium, 255
Viáticati hercle ádmodum aestiué sumus.

Ne tu hércle, opinor, nísi domum reuórteris,
Vbi níl habebis, géminum dum quaerís, geines.
Nam itást haec hominum nátio: in Epidámnies
Voluptárii atque pótatores máxumei; 260

Tum sýcophantae et pálpatores plúrumei
In úrbe hac habitant: túm meretrices múlieres
Nusquám perhibentur blándiores géntium.
Proptérea huic urbei nómen Epidamno índitumst,
Quia némo ferme síne damno huc deuórtitur. 265

Men. Ego istúc cauebo. Cédo dum huc mihi marsúppium.

Mes. Quid eó uis? **Men.** Iam aps te métuo de uerbís
tuis.

Mes. Quid métuis? **Men.** Ne mihi dámnum in Epi-
damno duas.

Tu amátor magnus múlierum es, Messénio,
Ego autótem homo iracúndus, animi pérditi: 270
Id utrúmque, argentum quándo habebó, cáuero,
Ne tú delinquas néne ego irascár tibi.

Mes. Cape átque serua: mé lubente féceris.

Mes. You are seeking a knot in a bulrush. Why don't we return home, unless indeed we are going to write a book of travels?

Men. Sos. You'd better not make smart speeches, unless you want a beating. Don't bother me. This matter will not be arranged to please you.

Mes. (*Aside.*) Hm! By that speech indeed I see that I am a slave. He could not with such distinctness have expressed more in a few words. But nevertheless I cannot refrain from speaking. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) Listen, Menaechmus! When I look into the purse, I see that we are, in truth, equipped as if for a summer's journey. By Hercules, I certainly think that unless you return home you will be reduced to poverty, and will pay the penalty for this search for your twin brother. For the people here are of this sort: among the Epidamnians are revellers and very hard drinkers; very many sharpers and tricksters, too, dwell in this city, and nowhere in the world are the women considered more enticing. On this account the name Epidamnus has been given to this place, because scarcely anyone leaves here without some damage.

Men. Sos. I shall look out for that. (*Holding out his hand.*) Just give that purse to me.

Mes. (*Drawing back.*) What do you want of it?

Men. Sos. I am afraid of you, because you talk so.

Mes. Why are you afraid?

Men. Sos. Lest you cause me some damage in Epidamnus. You are a great lover of women, Messenio; I, on the other hand, am an irascible man, of ungovernable temper. When I get the money, I shall see to it that you do not wrong me and that I do not get angry at you.

Mes. (*Giving him the purse.*) Take it and keep it. I am willing you should have it.

SCAENA II.

CYLINDRVS. MENAECHMVS II. MESSENIO.

Cyl. Bene ópsonaui atque éx mea senténtia:

Bonum ánteponam prándium pransóribus.

275

Sed eccúm Menaechmum uídeo. Vae tergó meo:

Prius iám conuiuae obámbulant ante óstium,

Quam ego ópsonatu rédeo. Adibo atque ádloquar.

Menaéchme, salue. **Men.** Dí te amabunt, quísquis es.

. quís ego sim?

280

Mes. Non hércle uero. **Cyl.** Vbi conuiuae céteri?**Men.** Quos tú conuiuas quaéris? **Cyl.** Parasitúm tuom.**Men.** Meúm parasitum? cértó hic insanúst homo.**Mes.** Dixín tibi esse hic sýcophantas plúrumos?**Men.** Quem tú parasitum quaéris, adulescéns, meum? 285**Cyl.** Penículum. **Men.** ubi meus?**Mes.** Penículum tuom eccum in uídulo saluóm fero.**Cyl.** Menaéchme, numero huc áduenis ad prándium:Nunc ópsonatu rédeo. **Men.** Respondé mihi,

Aduléscens: quibus hic prétiis porci uéneunt

290

Sacrés sinceri? **Cyl.** Númmis. **Men.** Nummum a me

áccipe:

Iube té piari dé mea pecúnia.

Nam equidem ínsane insanum ésse te certó scio,

Qui míhi molestus hómini ignoto, quísquis es.

Cyl. Est tíbi Menaechmo nómen, tantum quód sciam. 295

- SCENE II.

Enter CYLINDRUS from the market-place with a basket of provisions.

Cyl. (*Soliloquizes.*) I have provided well and according to my liking. I shall set a good meal before the diners. But, lo, I see Menaechmus! Woe to my back! The guests are already at the door before I return from the marketing. I'll go and speak to him. Good morning, Menaechmus.

Men. Sos. May the gods love you, whoever you are. (*To MESSENIO.*) Do you know this man who knows me?

Mes. Most assuredly I do not.

Cyl. Where are the other guests?

Men. Sos. What other guests are you asking about?

Cyl. Your parasite.

Men. Sos. My parasite? (*To MESSENIO.*) Certainly this fellow is insane.

Mes. Did n't I tell you that there are very many sharpers here?

Men. Sos. (*To CYLINDRUS.*) What parasite of mine are you looking for, young man?

Cyl. Peniculus.

Men. Sos. Where is my peniculus?¹

Mes. (*Looking into the bag.*) Here I have your peniculus safe in the bag.

Cyl. Menaechmus, you come back too soon to dinner. I am just returning from the marketing.

Men. Sos. Answer me, young man, what's the price of pigs here, sound, unblemished ones?

Cyl. A shilling apiece.

Men. Sos. Accept this shilling from me. Have a sacrifice made for yourself at my expense, for surely I know for certain that you are perfectly daft, whoever you are, because you are impertinent to me a stranger.

Cyl. Your name is Menaechmus, that much I know.

¹ *i. e.*, "little brush."

Men. Pro sáno loqueris, quóm me appellas nómine.
Sed úbi nouisti tú me? **Cyl.** Vbi ego te nóuerim,
Qui amícam eram meam hábeas hanc Erótium?

Men. Neque hércle ego habeo néque te, qui homo sis, scio.

Cyl. Culíndrus ego sum: nón nōsti nomén meum? 300

Men. Sei tú Culindrus seú Colindru's, périeris.

Ego té non noui néque nouisse adeó uolo.

Cyl. Non scís quis ego sim, quí tibi saepíssume
Cyathísso apud nos, cuándo potas? **Mes.** Heí mihi,
Quom níhil est, qui illic hómīni diminuám caput. 305

Men. Tun cýathissare míhi soles, qui ante hunc diem
Epidámnum numquam uídi neque uení? **Cyl.** Negas?

Men. Nego hércle uero. **Cyl.** Nón tu in illisce aédibus
Habes? **Men.** Di illos homines, qui illic habitant, pér-
duint.

Cyl. Insánit hic quidem, qui ípsus male dicít sibi. 310
Audín, Menaechme? **Men.** Quíd uis? **Cyl.** Si me
cónsulas,

Nummum íllum quem mihi dúdum pollicitú's dare,
Iubeás, si sapias, pórculum adferrí tibi.

Nam tú quidem hercle cérto non sanú's satis,
Menaéchme, qui nunc ípsus male dicás tibi. 315

Men. Heu, hércle homonem múltum et odiosúm mihi.

Cyl. Solét iocari saepe mecum illóc modo.

Quam uís ridiculus ést, ubi uxor nón adest.

Quid aís tu? **Men.** Quíd uis, néquam? **Cyl.** Satin
hoc, quód uides,

Tribus uóbis opsonátumst añ opsono ámplius, 320

Men. Sos. You speak as a sane man, when you call me by name; but where did you get acquainted with me?

Cyl. Where did I get acquainted with you, the man that has my mistress Erotium as a mistress?

Men. Sos. No, indeed, I have n't, nor do I know who you are.

Cyl. I am Cylindrus. Don't you know my name?

Men. Sos. Whether you are Cylindrus or Colindrus, to the deuce with you. I don't know you, and I don't want to know you.

Cyl. Don't you know me, the servant who so often fills your cup when you are drinking at our house?

Mes. Woe is me, that I have nothing with which to smash this fellow's head!

Men. Sos. (*To CYLINDRUS.*) Are you accustomed to fill the cup for me, a man that before to-day has never been in Epidamnus, nor seen it?

Cyl. Do you deny it?

Men. Sos. Deny it? I should say I did!

Cyl. (*Pointing to the house of MENAECHEMUS of Epidamnus.*) Don't you live in that house yonder?

Men. Sos. May the gods destroy those who live there!

Cyl. (*Aside.*) He is the one who is insane,—he who is calling down destruction upon himself. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) Do you hear, Menaechmus?

Men. Sos. What do you want?

Cyl. If you would take my advice, you would, if you are wise, order that a porker be procured for yourself with that shilling which you just now promised to give to me; for you, in Hercules' name, are surely not altogether sane, Menaechmus, who are calling down curses upon yourself.

Men. Sos. O, bah! by Hercules, the man is a wind-bag and nuisance.

Cyl. (*Aside to the audience*) He often jokes with me in that way. He is as funny as you please, when his wife is not around. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) What say you?

Men. Sos. What do you want, you good-for-nothing?

Cyl. (*Shows the contents of his basket.*) Is this that you see enough provision for you three, or shall I provide more

Tibi ét parasito et múlieri? **Men.** Quas múlieres,
 Quos tú parasitos lóquere? **Mes.** Quod te urgét scelus,
 Qui huic sís molestus? **Cyl.** Quid tibi mecúmst rei?
 Ego té non noui: cum hóc, quem noui, fábulator.

Men. Non édepol tu homo sánus es, certó scio. 325

Cyl. Iam ego haéc madebunt fáxo: nil morábitur.

Proin tú ne quo abeas lóngius ab hisce aédibus.

Numquíd uis? **Men.** Vt eas máximam malám crucem.

Cyl. Te ire hérele meliust íntro iam atque accúmbere,

Dum ego haéc appono ad Vólcani uioléntiam. 330

Ibo íntro et dicam te híc adstare Erótio,

Vt te hínc abducat pótius quam hic adstés foris.

Men. Iamne ábiit? Abiit. Édepol haud mendácia

Tua uérba experior ésse. **Mes.** Obseruató modo:

Nam istíc meretricem crédo habitare múlierem, 335

Vt quídem ille insanus díxit, qui hinc abiit modo.

Men. Sed míror, qui ille nóuerit nomén meum.

Mes. Minume hérele mirum: mórem hunc meretricés
 habent:

Ad pórtum mittunt séruolos, ancíllulas:

Si quae peregrina náuis in portum áduenit, 340

Rogitánt quoiatis sít, quid ei nomén siet:

Postílla extemplo se ádplicant, adglútinant:

Si péllexerunt, pérditum amittúnt domum.

Nunc ín istoc portu stát nauis praedatória,

Aps quá cauendum nóbis sane cénseo. 345

Men. Monés quídem herele récte. **Mes.** Tum demúm
 sciam

for you and your parasite, and the woman ?

Men. Sos. What women, what parasites, are you talking about ?

Mes. (*To CYLINDRUS.*) What depravity makes you so impertinent to him ?

Cyl. (*To MESSENIO.*) What business have you with me ? I don't know you. I am talking with this man whom I do know.

Men. Sos. Surely you are a madman. I know it for certain.

Cyl. (*Starting toward EROTIUM'S house.*) Now I shall see that these things are well cooked ; there will be no delay. Therefore, don't go very far away from the house. Do you wish anything further ?

Men. Sos. That you go to the dogs !

Cyl. You'd better go inside now and recline on the couch, while I put these things on to cook (*he reaches the door*). I shall go and tell Erotium that you are outside, that she may invite you in, rather than have you stand here before the door (*goes into the house*).

Men. Sos. Has he now gone ? He has. (*To MESSENIO.*) By heavens, I find that your words are not untrue !

Mes. Just be on the alert, for I believe that a courtesan lives there, as indeed, that crazy fellow said that just now went away from here.

Men. Sos. But I wonder how he came to know my name.

Mes. That, indeed, is not at all strange. Courtesans have this practice of sending their slaves and maid-servants to the harbor. If any foreign ship comes into port, they ask where it is from and what its name is. Then they immediately devote themselves to the master ; they stick fast to him, and if they can seduce him they send him home bankrupt. Now there is a pirate ship standing in that harbor (*points to EROTIUM'S house*), against which I think we must certainly be on our guard.

Men. Sos. You certainly give good advice.

Mes. Then, indeed, I shall know that I have advised well,

Recté monuisse, sí tu recte cáueris.

Men. Tace dúm parumper: nám concrepuit óstium.

Videámus, qui hinc egréditur. **Mes.** Hoc ponam ínterim.

Adséruatote haec súltis, naualés pédes. 350



SCAENA III.

EROTIVM. MENAECHMVS II. MESSENIO.

Ero. Sine fóris sic: abi, nolo óperiri:

Intús para, curá: uide,

Quod opúst, fiat. Sterníte lectos,

Incéndite odores: múnditia.

Inlécebra animost amántium. 355

Amánti amoenitás malost, nobís lucrest.

Sed ubi íllest, quem coquos ánte aedis ait ésse? atque ec-
cum uídeo,

Qui mi ést usui et plurúmum prodest.

Item huíc ultro fit, út meret, potíssumus nostrae ut sít domi.

Nunc éum adibo: adloquar últro. 360

Animúle mi, mihi mirá uidentur

Te hic stáre foris, fores quóí pateant

Magis, quám domus tua, domus quom haéc tua sit.

Omné paratumst,

Vt iússisti atque ut uóluisti, 365

Neque tíbi iamst ulla mora íntus.

if you will be well on your guard.

Men. Sos. Pray, keep quiet a moment, for the door is opening. Let us see who is coming out (*they withdraw to the side*).

Mes. (*Puts down the bag.*) Meanwhile I'll place this here. (*To the sailors.*) Will you sailors please watch these things?



SCENE III.

Enter EROTUM from her house. She stands at the door.

Ero. (*To a servant inside the house.*) Leave the doors so; go away, I don't want them closed. Make ready within. Be careful; see that whatever is necessary is done. Cover the couches, light the incense; elegance is a snare for the hearts of lovers. Beauty is our lover's loss, 'tis our gain. (*Soliloquizes.*) But where is he who the cook said was before the door? Ah! there I see him, who is of the greatest assistance to me. I willingly treat him as he deserves, who is such a help to my house. I'll now go to him. I'll speak first.

(*To MENAECHMUS SOSICLES, in the street.*) My little sweetheart, I am surprised that you stand here before the doors that are wider open to you than those of your own house, — since this is your own house. Everything is prepared as you have ordered and desired, and there is now no longer any reason for delay.

Prandíum, ut iussisti, hic cúratumst:

Vbi líbet, ilicet accúbitum.

Men. Quícum haec mulier lóquitur? **Ero.** Equidem
técum. **Men.** Quid mecúm tibi

Fúit umquam aut nunc ést negoti? **Ero.** Quía pol te
unum ex ómnibus 370

Vénus me uoluit mágnificare: néque id haud immeritó tuo.
Nam écastor solús bene factis tuís me florentém facis.

Men. Céрто haec mulier aút insana aut ébriast, Messénio,
Quaé hominem ignotúm compellet mé tam familiáriter.

Mes. Díxin ego istaec híc solere fíeri? Folia núnc ca-
dunt, 375

Prae út si triduum hóc hic erimus: tum árbores in té
cadent.

Nam íta sunt hic meretríces: omnes élecebrae argentáariae.
Séd sine me dum hanc cómpellare. Heus múlter, tibi dicó.

Ero. Quid est?

Mes. Vbi tu hunc hominem nóuisti? **Ero.** Ibidem,
ubi híc me nouit iám diu.

Ín Epidamno. **Mes.** In Epidamno? qui húc in hanc
urbém pedem, 380

Nísi hodie, numquam íntro tetulit? **Ero.** Héia, deliciás
facis.

Mí Menaechme, quín amabo is íntro? Hic tibi erit réctius.

Men. Haéc quidem edepol récte appellat meó me mulier
nómine.

Nímis miror, quid hoc sít negoti. **Mes.** Oboluit mar-
súppium

The dinner, as you directed, has been provided here. When you wish you may go and take your place.

Men. Sos. (*To MESSENIO.*) With whom is this woman talking? **Ero.** (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) With you, of course

Men. Sos. What business have I ever had with you, or have I now?

Ero. Why, in truth, Venus has desired that I exalt you alone above all others; and you are not undeserving of it either, for surely you alone make me prosperous by your kind acts.

Men. Sos. (*Apart to MESSENIO.*) Certainly this woman is either crazy or drunk, Messenio, who addresses me, a stranger, so familiarly.

Mes. (*Apart.*) Didn't I say it was the custom here to do such things? The leaves are now falling, as a matter of comparison with what will happen if we stay here three days; by that time the trees will be falling on you. For the women here are of this kind, that they are all money getters. But just let me talk to this woman. Hello, woman, it's to you I'm speaking! **Ero.** What is it?

Mes. Where did you get acquainted with this gentleman?

Ero. In the same place where he got acquainted with me some time ago, in Epidamnus.

Mes. In Epidamnus? with a man that never set foot inside this city until to-day?

Ero. Oh! you're joking. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) My dear Menaechmus, why, I pray you, don't you go inside? It will be pleasanter for you in there (*she starts toward her door*).

Men. Sos. (*Apart.*) In truth, this woman does certainly call me by my right name. I wonder what this means?

Mes. (*Apart to MENAECHEMUS.*) She has smelled the purse that you have.

Huíc istuc, quod habés. **Men.** Atque edepol tú me monuistí probe. 385

Accipe dum hoc : iam scíbo, utrum haec me máge amet an marsúppium.

Ero. Eámus intro, ut prándeamus. **Men.** Béne uocas : tam grátiaſt.

Ero. Cúr igitur me tíbi iussisti cóquere dudum prándium ?

Men. Égon te iussi cóquere ? **Ero.** Certo tíbi tu et parasitó tuo.

Men. Quóí malum parasító ? Certo haec múlſier non ſanáſt ſatis. 390

Ero. Péniculo. **Men.** Quis iſtéſt Peniculus ? qui éxtergentur báxeae ?

Ero. Scílicet qui dúdum tecum uénit, quom pallám mihi Détuſiſti, quám ab uxore tuá ſurrupuiſtí. **Men.** Quid eſt ? Tíbi pallam dedí, quam uxori meaé ſurrupui ? ſánan eſ ? Céрто haec mulier cánſterino rítud aſtans ſómniat. 395

Ero. Quí lubet ludíbriſ habere me átque ire infiſtiás mihi

Fácta quae ſunt ? **Men.** Díc quid eſt id quód negem : quod fécerim ?

Ero. Pállam te hodie míhi dedisse uxóris. **Men.** Etiam núnc nego.

Égo quidem neque úmquam uxorem hábui neque habeó : neque huc

Vmquam, poſtquam nátuſ ſum, intra pórtam penetrauí pedem.

Men. Sos. (*Apart to MESSENIO.*) To be sure. You have advised me well. Pray take this (*gives him the purse*). I shall soon find out whether she loves me or the purse the more.

Ero. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) Let us go inside to dinner.

Men. Sos. You are very kind. No, I thank you.

Ero. Why then did you direct me just a little while ago to prepare dinner?

Men. Sos. Did I direct you to prepare a dinner?

Ero. Assuredly, for you and for your parasite.

Men. Sos. For what parasite? (*Apart to MESSENIO*). Certainly this woman is not altogether of sound mind.

Ero. For Peniculus.

Men. Sos. Who is this Peniculus? the one with which we clean our shoes?

Ero. The one, to be sure, that came with you a little while ago, when you brought me the mantle that you stole from your wife.

Men. Sos. What's that? Did I give you a mantle that I stole from my wife? Are you in your right mind? (*Apart to MESSENIO.*) Surely this woman dreams on her feet, just as a horse does.

Ero. Why do you wish to make sport of me, and deny what you have done?

Men. Sos. Tell me what I have done that I deny.

Ero. That you gave your wife's mantle to me to-day.

Men. Sos. Now again I deny that. I indeed have never had a wife, and have none now; and I never set foot inside this city from the time that I was born until to-day. I break-

Prándi in naui: inde húc sum egressus ét te conueni.

Ero. Éccere,

Périi misera. Quám tu mihi nunc náuem narras? **Men.**

Lígneam,

Saépe tritam, saépe fissam, saépe excusam málleo.

Quási supellex péllionist: pálus palo próxumust.

Ero. Iám amabo, desíste ludos fácere atque i hac mecúm
semul. 405

Men. Néscio quem tu, múlter, alium hómínem, non me
quaéritas.

Ero. Nón ego te nouí Menaechmum, Móscho prognatúm
patre,

Quí Syracusís perhibere nátus esse in Sícilia,

Víbi rex Agathoclés regnator fúit, et iterum Píntia,

Tértium Liparó, qui in morte régnum Hieroni trádedit, 410

Núnc Hierost? **Men.** Haud falsa, mulier, praédicas.

Mes. Pro Iúppiter,

Núm istaec mulier íllinc uenit, quae te nouit tám cate?

Men. Hérele opinor pérnegari nón potest. **Mes.** Ne
féceris.

Périisti, si intrássis intra límen. **Men.** Quin tu táce
modo: 415

Béne res geritur. Ádsentabor, quícquid dicet, múlteri,

Sí possum hospitíum nancisci. Iám dudum, muliér, tibi

Nón imprudens áduorsabar: húnc metuebam né meae

Vxori renúntiaret dé palla et de prándio. 420

Núnc quando uis, eámus intro. **Ero.** Étiam parasitúm
manes?

fasted on board ship, thence I came out here and met you.

Ero. Ah, wretched me, I am undone! Of what ship are you speaking?

Men. Sos. A wooden ship, often buffeted, often rent, often thumped with the mallet. Peg is very near to peg, as in a furrier's block.

Ero. Now I beg of you, quit making fun of me and come along with me.

Men. Sos. Woman, you are looking for some other man, not me.

Ero. Don't I know you, Menaechmus, son of your father Moschus, said to have been born at Syracuse in Sicily, when King Agathocles was ruler, and then Pintia, next Liparo, who at his death bequeathed the kingdom to Hiero, the present ruler?

Men. Sos. Woman, you do not tell that which is untrue.

Mes. In Jupiter's name! Did n't this woman come from there, she knows you so well? **Ero.** Let us go within to dinner.

Men. Sos. (*Apart to MESSENIUS.*) By Hercules, I think I can't deny her!

Mes. (*Apart.*) Don't you do it. You are lost, if you go inside the threshold.

Men. Sos. (*Apart.*) Pray, do be still, it's all right. I'll agree to whatever the woman says, if I can thus get entertainment. (*To EROTUM.*) For some time, lady, I have purposely opposed you. I was afraid lest this fellow would tell my wife about the mantle and the dinner. Now when you will, let us go in.

Ero. Are you waiting for your parasite too?

Men. Néque ego illum maneó neque flocci fácio, neque
si uénerit,

Eúm uolo intro mítti. **Ero.** Ecaster haúd inuita fétero.
Séd scin quid te amábo ut facias? **Men.** Ímpera quiduís
modo.

Ero. Pállam illam quam dúdum dederas, ád phrygionem
ut déferas, 425

Út reconcinnétur atque ut ópera addantur quae uolo.

Men. Hércle qui tu récte dicis ét eadem ignorábitur,
Ne úxor cognoscát te habere, si ín uia conspéxerit.

Ero. Ergo mox auférto tecum, quándo abibis. **Men.**
Máxume.

Ero. Eámus intro. **Men.** Iám sequar ted: húnce uolo
etiam cónloqui. 430

Ého, Messenio, ád me accede huc. **Mes.** Quíd negotist?
Men. Súscipe hoc.

Mes. Quíd eo opust? **Men.** Opúst. Scio ut me díces.
Mes. Tanto néquior.

Men. Táce
Hábeo praedam; tántum incepti óperis. Ei, quantúm
potest 435

Ábduc istos ín tabernam actútum deuorsóriam.

Tú facito ante sólem occasum ut uénias aduorsúm mihi.

Mes. Nón tu istas meretríces nouisti, ére? **Men.** Tace,
inquam atque hínce abi.

Míhi dolebit, nón tibi, si quíd ego stulte fétero.

Múlier haec stulta átque inscitast: quantúm perspexí
modo,

Men. Sos. I'm not waiting for him. I don't care a straw for him; and if he should come, I don't want him admitted.

Ero. I'll do it with no bad grace. But do you know what I want you to do?

Men. Sos. Just command whatsoever you wish.

Ero. I would like to have you carry the mantle you just gave me to the embroiderer's, that it may be made over and the trimmings added that I want.

Men. Sos. By heavens, you are the one to speak to the point. In that way it will be so disguised that my wife would not know that you have it, if she should catch sight of you on the street.

Ero. Take it with you by and by when you go away.

Men. Sos. Certainly.

Ero. Let us go in.

Men. Sos. Go, I'll follow soon. I wish to speak a moment with him. (*EROTIUM goes in.*) Ho, Messenio! come here to me.

Mes. What does this mean?

Men. Sos. (*Pointing to the bag.*) Take this up. By heavens, I think I can't refuse her.

Mes. Why not?

Men. Sos. Because — I know what you will say to me.

Mes. So much the worse.

Men. Sos. Keep still. The booty is mine. I have a great scheme. Take these (*pointing to the sailors*) straight to some lodging-house as quickly as possible. Be sure to come to meet me at sunset.

Mes. Aren't you familiar with the ways these women have?

Men. Sos. Be still, I say, and get away from here. It will be my loss, not yours, if I do anything foolish. The woman is silly and ignorant. So far as I have found out, the spoil

Ést hic praeda nóbis. **Mes.** Perii. Iámne abis? Periít
probe :

Dúcit lembum iám diirectum náuis praedatória.

Séd ego inscitus súm qui ero me póstulem moderárier :

Dícto me emit aúdentem, haud ímperatorém sibi.

Séquimini, ut, quod ímperatumst, uéniam aduorsum
témperi.

445



SCAENA IV.

PENICVLVS.

Plús triginta nátus annis égo sum, quom intereá loci
Númquam quicquam fácinus feci péius neque sceléstius,
Quám hodie, quom in cóntionem médiam me inmersí
miser :

Vbi ego dum hietó, Menaechmus sé subterduxít mihi
Átque abiit ad amícam, credo, néque me uoluit dúcere. 450
Qui illum di omnes pérduint, quei prímus commentúst
male

Cóntionem habére, quae homines óccupatos óccupat.
Nón ad eam rem hercle ótiosos hómines decuit délegi,
Quí nisi adsint quóm citentur, cénsus capiant ílico ?
Adfatimst hominum, ín dies qui síngulas escás edint,
Quíbus negoti níhil est, qui essum néque uocantur néque
uocant :

Eós oportet cóntioni dáre operam atque cómitiis.

is ours (*he starts into EROTIVM'S house*).

Mes. I'm undone! Are you going now? (*MENAECIVM goes in.*) He surely is lost, the pirate ship is now leading the cutter to destruction. But I am foolish in asking to rule my master. He bought me to obey him, not to command him. (*To the sailors*). Follow me, that I may come to meet him in good time as he commanded. (*They go off toward the harbor.*)



SCENE IV.

Enter PENICVLVS from the Forum.

Pen. (*Soliloquizes.*) I have lived now more than thirty years and during all that time I have never done anything more foolish or more disastrous than what I did to-day, when fool that I was I plunged into the midst of a crowd, and while I stood there gaping suffered Menaechmus to give me the slip. So he went away to his mistress, I suppose, and didn't wish to take me with him.

May all the gods destroy him who first maliciously devised this holding of an assembly that busies busy men! Ought not men of leisure, in sooth, to be chosen for that purpose? If these are not present at roll-call, the officers should immediately exact the penalty. There are enough men that eat but one meal a day, that have no business, that are not invited to dine out, and that do not entertain anybody. These ought to give their attention to assemblies and conventions.

Sí id ita esset, nón ego hodie pérdissem prándium : 460
 Quód tam credo deós uoluisse quám me uideo uíuere.
 Ibo ; etiamnum réliquiarum spés animum oblectát meum.
 Séd quid ego uideó ? Menaechmus cúm corona exít foras.
 Súblatumst convívium : edepol uénio aduorsum témpери.
 Óbseruabo, quíd agat, hominem : póst adibo atque ádlo-
 quar. 465

SCAENA V.

MENAECHMVS II. PENICVLVS.

Men. Potine út quiescas, si égo tibi hanc hodié probe
 Lepidéque concinnátam referam témpери ?
 Non fáxo eam esse díces : ita ignorábitur.

Pen. Satúr nunc loquitur dé me et de partí mea :
 Pallam ád phrygionem fért confecto prándio 470
 Vinóque expoto, párasito exclusó foras.

Non hércle ego is sum quí sum, ni hanc iniúriam
 Meque últus pulcre fúero. Obserua quíd dabo.

Men. Pro di ímmortales, quóí homini umquam unó die
 Boní dedisti plús, qui minus speráuerit ? 475

Prandí, potaui, scórtum accubui, ápstuli
 Hanc, quóíus heres númquam erit post hunc diem.

Pen. Nequeó, quae loquitur, éxaudire clánculum.

Men. Ait hanc dedisse mé sibi atque eam mé meae
 Vxóri surrupuísse. Quoniam séntio 480

If this were so, I should not to-day have lost my dinner, which I believe the gods intended for me as firmly as that I see myself alive.

I shall go. Even yet does the hope of what is left delight my soul. But what do I see? Menaechmus is coming out with a chaplet. The banquet has been removed. By heavens, I have come just in time to fetch him home. I'll watch the man to see what he does; then I'll go and speak to him.

SCENE V.

Enter MENAECHEMUS II. (SOSICLES) from the house of EROTIVM. He stands at the door and speaks to EROTIVM in the house.

Men. Sos. Can't you be satisfied, if I bring this back to you to-day in good time tastefully and elegantly remodeled? I'll warrant that you will say it is not the same cloak, it will be so disguised.

Pen. (*Aside.*) He is now, after filling up, talking about me and my share (*going nearer*). He is carrying the mantle to the embroiderer's after the dinner is eaten, the wine drunk, and the parasite shut out of doors. By heavens, I am not the man I am, unless I handsomely avenge this injury to myself (*shaking his fist at him*). Watch what I give him.

Men. Sos. (*Starting from the door.*) Oh ye immortal gods! to what man that hoped for less have you ever in one day given more blessings? I have eaten, I have drunk, I have banqueted with a woman. I have stolen this mantle, which she will never get again.

Pen. (*Aside.*) I can't from this place hear what he is saying.

Men. Sos. She says that I gave this to her and that I stole it from my wife. When I see that she is mistaken, imme-

Erráre, extemplo, quási res cum ea essét mihi,
 Coepi ádsentari: múlter quicquid díxerat,
 Idem égo dicebam. Quid multis uerbís opust?
 Minóre nusquam béne fui dispéndio.

Pen. Adíbo ad hominem: nám turbare géstio. 485

Men. Quis hic ést, qui aduorsus ít mihi? **Pen.** Quid
 aís, homo

Leuiór quam pluma, péssume et nequíssume,
 Flagítium homonis, súbdole ac minumí preti?
 Quid dé te merui, quá me causa pérderes?
 Quid súrrupuisti té mihi dudum dé foro, 490
 Fecísti funus méd absentí prándio?

Cur áusu's facere, quoí ego aequé herés eram?

Men. Aduléscens, quaeso, quíd tibi mecúmst rei,
 Qui míhi male dicas hómini hic ignotó sciens?

An tíbi malam rem uís pro male dictís dari? 495

Pen. Istám quidem edepol té dedisse intéllego.

Men. Respónde, adulescens, quaéso, quid nomén tibist?

Pen. Etiám derides, quási nomen non nóueris?

Men. Non édepol ego te, quód sciam, umquam ante hunc
 diem

Vidí neque noui: uérum certo, quískuís es, 500
 Aequóm si facias, míhi odiosus nón sies.

Pen. Non mé nouisti? **Men.** Nón negem, si nóuerim.

Pen. Menaéchme, uigila. **Men.** Vígilo hercle equidem,
 quod sciam.

Pen. Tuóm parasitum nón nóuisti? **Men.** Nón tibi
 Sanum ést, adulescens, sínciput, ut intéllego. 505

diately I begin to agree with her as if she were right. Whatever the woman said, the same said I. What's the use of talking? I never was so well off at less expense.

Pen. (*Aside.*) I shall go to the man, for I long to have a bout with him.

Men. Sos. Who is this coming at me?

Pen. What do you say, you man of less weight than a feather, you most villainous and most contemptible scandal of a fellow, you dead-beat and man of no account? Why have I deserved this at your hands? Why do you ruin me? Why did you sneak away from me a while ago in the Forum? Why have you consumed my dinner in my absence? Why did you dare to eat what was as much mine as it was yours?

Men. Sos. Young man, I beg of you, what business have I with you that you designedly insult me, a stranger here? Do you wish me to punish you for your insults?

Pen. Indeed I think, by Pollux, you have already punished me.

Men. Sos. Answer me, young fellow, I beg of you; what is your name?

Pen. Do you even scoff at me? As if you didn't know my name!

Men. Sos. Truly, as far as I know, I never saw you before to-day, and I do not know you; but certainly, whoever you are, if you do right, you will not abuse me.

Pen. Don't you know me?

Men. Sos. If I did know you I would n't deny it.

Pen. Menaechmus, wake up!

Men. Sos. By Hercules, I am indeed awake, so far as I know.

Pen. Don't you know your own parasite?

Men. Sos. Young man, your pate is not sound, I think.

Pen. Respónde: surrupuístin uxorí tuae

Pallam ístanc hodie atque eám dedisti Erótio?

Men. Neque hércle ego uxorem hábeo, neque ego Erótio

Dedí nec pallam súrrupui. **Pen.** Satin sánus es?

Occísast haec res. Nón ego te indutúm foras 510

Exíre uidi pállam? **Men.** Vae capití tuo.

Omnís cinaedos ésse censes, tú quia's?

Tun méd indutum fuísse pallam praédicas?

Pen. Ego hércle uero. **Men.** Nón tu abis, quo dígnus
es, 515

Aut té piari iúbes, homo insaníssume?

Pen. Numquam édepol quisquam me éxorabit, quín tuae
Vxóri rem omnem iam, út siet gesta, éloquar.

Omnés in te istaec récident contuméliae.

Faxo haúd inultus prándium comédereis. 520

Men. Quid hoc ést negoti? Sátin, ut quemque cónspicor,
Ita mé ludificant? Séd concrepuit óstium.



SCAENA VI.

ANCILLA. MENAECHMVS II.

Anc. Menaéchme, amare aít te multum Erótium,

Vt hóc una opera iám ad aurificem déferas,

Atque húc ut addas aúri pondod únciam

Iubeásque spinter nóuom reconcinnárier. 525

Pen. Answer; did n't you steal that mantle from your wife and give it to Erotium?

Men. Sos. No, by Hercules, I have n't a wife, and I did n't give it to Erotium; and I did not steal the mantle.

Pen. Are you altogether sane? (*Aside*). It is all up with me. (*To Menaechmus*.) Did n't I see you come out of the house with the mantle on?

Men. Sos. Plague take your head! Do you think everybody is a scoundrel because you are one? Do you say that I had the mantle on?

Pen. Most assuredly I do.

Men. Sos. Won't you go where you belong, or will you order a sacrifice made for you, you maniac?

Pen. By heavens, no one shall keep me from telling your wife the whole thing immediately just as it has occurred. All these insults will come back to you. I'll warrant you won't eat up my dinner and go unpunished (*he goes into the house of MENAECHEMUS of EPIDAMNUS*).

Men. Sos. What does this business mean? Is it not evident that as soon as I get sight of any one, he begins to make sport of me? But the door is opening.



SCENE VI.

Enter a MAID from the house of EROTIIUM with a bracelet, which she gives to MENAECHEMUS.

Maid. Menaechmus, Erotium says that she earnestly begs you to take this bracelet with you to the goldsmith's and have an ounce of gold added to it and have it made over.

Men. Et istúc et aliud, sí quid curarí uolet,
Me cúraturum dícito, quicquíd uolet.

Anc. Scin, quód hoc sit spinter? **Men.** Néscio, nisi
aúreum.

Anc. Hoc ést, quod olim clánculum ex armário 530
Te súrrupuisse aiébas uxori tuae.

Men. Numquam hércle factumst. **Anc.** Nón memi-
nisti, te óbsecro?

Redde igitur spinter, sí non meministí. **Men.** Mane.

Immo équidem memini: uémpe hoc est quod illí dedi.

Anc. Istúc. **Men.** Vbi illae armíllae, quas uná dedi? 535

Anc. Numquám dedisti. **Men.** Nám pol cum hoc uná
dedi.

Anc. Dicám curare? **Men.** Dícito: curábitur.

Et pálla et spinter fáxo referantúr simul.

Anc. Amábo, mi Menaéchme, inauris dá mihi, 540

Faciúnda pondo duóm nummum stalágmia,

Vt té lubenter uídeam, quom ad nos uéneris.

Men. Fiát. Cedo aurum: égo manupretiúm dabo.

Anc. Da sódes aps ted: égo post reddideró tibi.

Men. Immó cedo aps ted: égo post tibi reddám duplex. 545

Anc. Non hábeo. **Men.** At tu, quándo habebis, túm
dato.

Anc. Numquíd uis? **Men.** Haec me cúraturum dícito,

Vt, cuántum possint, quíque liceant, uéneant.

Iamne ábiit intro? Ábiit, operuít foris.

Di mé quidem omnes ádiuuánt, augént, amant.

Sed quíd ego cesso, dúm datur mi occasio 550

Men. Sos. Tell her that I will attend to that and to anything else she may wish to have done.

Maid. Do you know what this bracelet is?

Men. Sos. I don't, unless it is gold.

Maid. It is the one that you said you stole from the jewel-box of your wife.

Men. Sos. By heavens, I never did it.

Maid. Don't you remember, I beseech you? Then give back the bracelet if you don't remember.

Men. Sos. Wait, oh! yes, indeed, I do remember. To be sure, this is the one I gave her.

Maid. Yes, that's it.

Men. Sos. Where are the armlets that I gave with it?

Maid. You never gave any.

Men. Sos. Why, I certainly did, together with this.

Maid. Shall I say that you will do the errand?

Men. Sos. Yes, it will be attended to. I'll see that the mantle and bracelet are brought back together.

Maid. I beseech you, my dear Menaechmus, give me some ear-rings, with pendants of a half ounce in weight, so that I may be glad to see you when you come to our house.

Men. Sos. It shall be done. Give me the gold; I will pay for the making.

Maid. Please give the gold yourself; I will repay you.

Men. Sos. No, you give it yourself; I'll give you back twice as much.

Maid. I have n't any.

Men. Sos. Well, when you get it, then give it.

Maid. Do you wish anything further? (*She goes into the house.*)

Men. Sos. Say that I shall attend to these things (*aside*), and as soon as possible they will be sold for what they will bring (*he looks around*). Has she now gone inside? She has gone, she has shut the door. (*Soliloquizes.*) Surely all the gods aid, prosper, love me. But why do I hesitate, while

Tempúsque, abire ab hís locis lenóniis ?

Properá, Menaechme : fér pedem, profér gradum.

Demam hánc coronam atque ábiciam ad laeuám manum,

Vt, sí sequentur me, hác abiisse cénseant.

555

Ibo ét conueniam séruom, si poteró, meum,

Vt haéc, quae bona dant dí mihi, ex me iám sciat.

opportunity and time are given me to get away from these procurers' dens? Hasten, Menaechmus, stir your steps, quicken your gait. I shall take off this chaplet and throw it to the left hand, so that if they follow me, they may think I have gone off in this way. I'll go and find my slave if I can, that he may know at once from me of the good things that the gods give me. (*Exit.*)

ACTVS III.

SCAENA I.

MATRONA. PENICVLVS.

Mat. Egone híc me patiar ésse in matrimónio,
 Vbi uír compilet clánculum, quicquíd domist,
 Atque hínc ad amicam déferat? **Pen.** Quin tú taces? 560
 Manufésto faxo iam ópprimes: sequere hác modo.
 Pallam ád phrygionem cúm coronad ébrius
 Ferébat, hodie tíbi quam surrupuít domo.
 Sed eccám coronam, quám habuit. Num méntior?
 Em, hac ábiit, si uis pérsequi uestígiis. 565
 Atque édepol eccum ipse óptume reuórtitur,
 Sed pállam non fert. **Mat.** Quíd ego nunc cum illóc
 agam?
Pen. Idém quod semper: mále habeas. **Mat.** Sic
 cénseo.
Pen. Huc concédamus: éx insidiis aúcupa.

ACT III.

SCENE I.

Enter the WIFE of MENAECHEMUS of Epidamnus from her house with PENICULUS.

Wife. Shall I consent to remain in wedlock, when my husband secretly steals whatever is at home and carries it off to his mistress?

Pen. Why don't you be quiet? I'll warrant you will soon catch him in the act; just follow this way. Drunk, and crowned with a chaplet, he was carrying to the embroiderer's the mantle that he stole from you to-day at home. (*Sees the chaplet.*) But lo! here is the chaplet that he had. Do I lie? See, he has gone this way, if you want to follow him by his tracks. (*Spies MENAECHEMUS of Epidamnus.*) But, by heavens, see there! he is coming back at a very opportune time; but he doesn't bring the mantle.

Wife. What shall I now do with him?

Pen. The same as usual; scold him.

Wife. I think I shall do so.

Pen. Let us step aside here and watch him from ambush (*they withdraw to the back of the stage*).

SCAENA II.

MENAECHMVS I. MATRONA. PENICVLVS.

Men. Vt hóc utimúr maxumé more móro 570
 Moléstoque múltum, atque utí quíque súnť
 Optumí, maxumé morem habénť hunc: cluéntis
 Sibi ómnis uolúnt esse múltos: boníne an
 Malí sint, id haúd quaeritánt. Res magís
 Quaeritúr, quam cluéntum fidés quoius modí 575
 Clueat. Si ést pauper átque haud malús, nequam habétur:
 Sin díues malúst, is cluéns frugi habétur.
 Quí neque legés neque aequóm bonum usquám
 colunt,
 Sollicitos patrónos habénť,
 Datúm denegánt, quod datúmst: 580
 Lítium plení, rapaces,
 Virí fraudulénti,
 Qui aut faénore aut periúriis
 Habénť rem parátam: mens ést in querélis.
 Iurís ubi dicitúr dies, simúl patronis dícitur: 585
 Quippe qui pro illis loquantur, quae male fecerint:
 Aut ád populum aut ín iure aut ád iudicém rest.
 Síc me hodie nímis sollicitum cluéns quidam habuit, ne-
 que quod uolui
 Ágere aut quicum uólui licitumst: íta me attinuit, íta
 detinuit.

SCENE II.

Enter MENAECHEMUS OF EPIDAMNUS from the Forum.

Men. of Epidamnus. (*Soliloquizes.*) How very subservient we are to this silly and very troublesome custom, and how those of the highest rank are especially given over to it! All wish to have many clients, but whether good or bad they do not inquire. There is question in regard to the property rather than to the character of the clients. If one is poor but honest, he is considered worthless; if rich and wicked, he is considered a valuable client. Those who do not regard the laws nor justice nor right have considerate patrons. Such clients are false to trusts bestowed upon them. They are given to litigation, are greedy, tricky men, who have acquired property by usury or perjury. Their interest is in quarrels. When the day is appointed for trial, their patrons must defend them, forsooth, for the crimes they have committed. The case is tried either before the people, or a justice, or a judge.

Thus a certain client has kept me very busy to-day; he has not allowed me to do what I wished, nor to be with whom I wished, he has so stuck to me and delayed me. I pleaded

Áput aediles pro éius factis plúrumisque péssumisque 590
Díxi causam: cóndicionēs tétuli tortas, cónfragasas.

Haúd plus, haud minús quam opus fuerat díxi, eam con-
trovórsiam ut

Spónsio finíret. Quid ille ignávos? quid? Praedém dedit.
Néc magis manuféstum ego hominem úmquam ullum te-
néri uidi:

Ómnibus male fáctis testes trés aderant acérrumi. 595
Di illum ómnes perdant: íta mi hunc optimum hódie
corrupít diem:

Meque ádeo, qui hodié forum umquam óculis inspexí
meis.

Vbi prímum licitumst, ílico properáui abire dé foro.

Iussi ádparari prándium: amíca exspectat mé, scio:

Irátast credo núnc mihi: placábit palla quám dedi. 600

Quam meae hodie uxori abstuli atque huic detuli Erotio.

Pen. Quid aís? **Mat.** Viro me malo mále nuptam.

Pen. Satin aúdis quae illic lóquitur?

Mat. Satis. **Men.** Sí sapiam, hinc intro ábeam, ubi mihi
bene sít. **Pen.** Mane: male erit pótius.

Men. Trístis admodúmst; non mihi istuc sátis placet. sed
cónloquar.

Díc, mea uxor, quíd tibi aegrest? **Pen.** Béllus blanditúr
tibi. 605

Men. Pótin ut mihi moléstus ne sis? núm te appello?

Mat. Aufér manum,

Aúfer hinc palpátiones. **Pen.** Pérge tu! **Men.** Quid
tú mihi

the case before the aediles in defence of his very many wicked deeds. I obtained a settlement on complicated and difficult conditions. I said neither more nor less than was necessary, in order that the judicial wager might end the controversy. What did the fool do! What? he gave bond! I never saw a man more completely entangled. There were present three very damaging witnesses of all his misdeeds. May all the gods destroy him who has so spoiled this fine day for me, and me too, for ever turning my eyes toward the Forum to-day!

As soon as I could, I hastened to leave the Forum. I have ordered a dinner to be prepared. My mistress awaits me, I know. I suppose she will now be angry at me. The mantle that I gave her will appease her.

Pen. (*Apart to the wife.*) What do you say?

Wife. (*Apart.*) That unfortunately I am married to a wicked husband.

Pen. (*Apart.*) Do you hear perfectly what he says?

Wife. (*Apart.*) Perfectly.

Men. (*Soliloquizes.*) If I am wise, I shall go inside the house where it will be pleasant for me (*he starts to EROTIVM'S door*).

Pen. Stop! it will rather be unpleasant.

Men. Who, pray, is this speaking? (*Turns and looks.*) What do I see! la! there is my wife with my parasite standing before the door blocking my way, and she is so glum! That does not at all suit me, but I'll speak to her. Say, wife, what grieves you?

Pen. (*To the WIFE.*) The pretty man is cajoling you.

Men. (*To PENICULUS.*) Can't you stop bothering me? Am I speaking to you? (*Puts his hand on his wife's arm.*)

Wife. (*Pushing him away.*) Take your hand off, away with your caresses!

Pen. (*To the WIFE.*) Keep it up.

Men. (*To the WIFE.*) Why are you out of humor with me?

Trístis es? **Mat.** Te scíre oportet. **Pen.** Scít, sed dissimulát malus.

Men. Númquis seruorúm deliquit? num áncillae aut seruí tibi

Répsonsant? Elóquere: impune nó n erit. **Mat.** Nugás agis. 610

Men. Cérte familiárium aliquoi írata's? **Mat.** Nugás agis.

Men. Núm mihi es írata saltem? **Mat.** Núnc tu non nugás agis.

Men. Nó n edepol delíqui quicquam. **Mat.** Em, rúrsum nunc nugás agis.

Men. Quid illuc est, uxór, negoti? **Mat.** Mén rogas?
Men. Vin húnc rogem?

Quid negotist? **Mat.** Pállam. **Men.** Pallam? quídnam pallam? **Pen.** Quid paues? 615

Men. Níl equidem paucó — nisi unum: pálla pallorem incutit.

Pen. Át tu ne clam mé comessis prándium. Perge ín uírum.

Men. Nó n taces? **Pen.** Non hércle uero táceo. Nutat né loquar.

Men. Nó n hercle ego quidem úsquam quicquam núto neque nictó tibi.

Pen. Níhil hoc confidéntiust, qui, quae uides, ea pérnegat. 620

Men. Pér Iouem deosque ómnis adiuro, úxor, — satin hoc ést tibi? —

Wife. You ought to know.

Pen. He does know, but the scoundrel dissembles.

Men. Have any of the slaves been remiss in their duty? Do the maids or men-servants talk back to you? Speak, it shall not go unpunished.

Wife. You are talking nonsense.

Men. Surely you are angry at some of the household.

Wife. You are talking nonsense.

Men. Certainly you are not angry at me?

Wife. Now you are not talking nonsense.

Men. By heavens, I have n't been remiss in anything.

Wife. Ah! now again you are talking nonsense.

Men. What does this mean, wife?

Wife. Do you ask me?

Men. (*Pointing to* PENICULUS.) Do you wish me to ask him? What does this mean?

Wife. The mantle.

Men. The mantle? what mantle, pray?

Pen. (*To* MENAECHEMUS.) Why are you frightened?

Men. Indeed I am not frightened, (*aside*) except in one particular, the *palla* makes me pallid.

Pen. Well, don't eat up my dinner then, when I am away. (*To the* WIFE.) Go at your husband.

Men. (*Motions to* PENICULUS.) Can't you be still?

Pen. No, by heavens, indeed I won't be still. (*To the* WIFE.) He nods to me not to speak. (*WIFE turns quickly on* MENAECHEMUS.)

Men. Indeed, by Hercules, I never nodded at all nor winked to you.

Pen. Nothing could be more shameless than this fellow, who denies the things that you yourself see.

Men. I swear, wife, by Jupiter and all the gods—is n't that enough for you?

Mé isti non nutásse. **Pen.** Credit iám tibi de isto: illúc redi.

Men. Quó ego redeam? **Pen.** Ad phrýgionem equidem cénseo. Ei, pallám refer.

Men. Quae istaec pallast? **Pen.** Táceo iam, quando híc rem non meminít suam.

Mat. Clánculum te istaec flagitia fácere censebás potis?

625

Né illam ecastor faénerato ábstulisti. Síc datur.

Pen. Síc datur. Properáto apseñte mé comesse prándium:

Póst ante aedis cúm corona mé derideto ébrius.

Men. Néque edepol ego prándi neque hodie húc intro tetulí pedem.

Pen. Tú negas? **Men.** Nego hércle uero. **Pen.** Níhil hoc homine audáciust.

630

Nón ego te modo híc ante aedis cúm corona flórea

Vídi astare, quóm negabas míhi esse sanum sínciput

Ét negabas mé nouisse, pégrinum aibas ésse te?

Men. Quín ut dudum déuorti abs te, rédeo nunc demúm domum.

Pen. Nóui ego te. Non míhi censebas ésse, qui te ulcís-cerer:

635

Ómnia herele uxóri dixi. **Men.** Quid dixisti? **Pen.** Néscio.

Eámpse roga. **Men.** Quid hóc est, uxor? quídnam hic narrauí tibi?

Quíd id est? quid tacés? quín dicis quíd sit? **Mat.** Quasi tu néscias.

I did n't nod to that fellow.

Pen. She believes you in regard to that, return thither.

Men. To what place shall I return?

Pen. I think, forsooth, to the embroiderer's. Go, bring back the mantle.

Men. What mantle is that?

Pen. I am silent now, since he does n't know his own property.

Wife. Did you think you could commit these outrages in secret? In truth you have certainly carried this off at heavy interest. (*She pushes him.*) Take that.

Pen. (*Strikes at him.*) Take that. Be in a hurry to eat up my dinner, while I am away, and afterward, while drunk and crowned with a chaplet, scoff at me in front of the house.

Men. By Pollux, I have n't dined, nor have I put a foot in here to-day.

Pen. Do you deny it?

Men. In truth, I certainly do deny it.

Pen. Nothing is more brazen than this fellow. Did n't I see you standing here before the house awhile ago, with a floral wreath on your head, when you kept saying I had n't a sound pate, and denying you knew me, and saying you were a stranger?

Men. No, but I left you a little while ago, and I am now just returning home.

Pen. I know you. You didn't think I was the one to take vengeance on you. By Hercules, I have told everything to your wife.

Men. What have you told?

Pen. I don't know, ask her.

Men. What is this, wife? What, pray, has he told you? What is it? Why are you silent? Why don't you say what it is?

Wife. Just as if you didn't know!

Né ego ecastor mŭlier misera. **Men.** Quíd tu misera's?
mi éxpedi.

Mat. Mé rogas? **Men.** Pol haúd rogem te, sí sciam.

Pen. O hominém malum: 640

Ūt dissimulat. nŏu potes celáre: rem nouít probe:

Ómnia hercle ego édictaui. **Men.** Quíd id est? **Mat.**

Quando níl pudet

Néque uis tua uolúntate ipse prófiteri, audi átque ades.

Ét quid tristis sim ét quid hic mihi díxerit, faxó scias.

Pálla mihist domó surrupta. **Men.** Pálla surruptást
mihi? 645

Pen. Víden ut te sceléstus captat? Huíc surruptast, nŏn
tibi:

Nám profecto tíbi surrupta si ésset, salua núnc foret.

Men. Níl mihi tecumst. Séd tu quid ais? **Mat.** Pálla,
inquam, perfiit domo.

Men. Quís eam surrupuít? **Mat.** Pol istuc ílle scit
qui illam ápstulit.

Men. Quís is homost? **Mat.** Menaéchmus quidam. **Men.**
Édepol factum néquiter. 650

Quís is Menaechmust? **Mat.** Tú istic, inquam. **Men.**
Égone? **Mat.** Tu. **Men.** Quis árguit?

Mat. Égomet. **Pen.** Et ego: atque huíc amicae détu-
listi Erótio.

Men. Égon dedi? **Pen.** Tu, tú istic, inquam. Uín ad-
ferri nóctuum,

Quaé tu tu usque dícat tíbi? nam nós iam defessí
sumus.

Surely I am a wretched woman.

Men. Why are you wretched? Explain to me.

Wife. Do you ask me?

Men. Surely I should n't ask you, if I knew.

Pen. Oh! villainous man, how he dissembles! You can't conceal it, she knows all about it. By heavens, I have told everything.

Men. (*To the WIFE.*) What does this mean?

Wife. Since you are ashamed of nothing and do not wish to confess of your own accord, attend and hear: A mantle has been stolen from me at home.

Men. A mantle has been stolen from me?

Pen. (*To the WIFE.*) Do you see how the scoundrel catches you up? (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) It was stolen from her, not from you; for certainly, if it had been stolen from you it would now be safe.

Men. (*To PENICULUS.*) I have nothing to do with you. (*To his WIFE.*) But what do you say?

Wife. A mantle, I say, has disappeared from the house.

Men. Who stole it?

Wife. In sooth, he who took it away, knows that.

Men. Who is the man? **Wife.** One Menaechmus.

Men. By heavens, it was a villainous deed. Who is that Menaechmus?

Wife. You are he. **Men.** I? **Wife.** You.

Men. Who accuses me?

Wife. I, to be sure.

Pen. And I; and you carried it off to your mistress, Erotium.

Men. Did I give it to her?

Pen. You, you I say. Do you want an owl brought here to say you-oooh, you-oooh continually to you? We are now worn out.

Men. Pér Iouem deosque ómnis adiuro, úxor, — satin
hoc ést tibi? — 655

Nón dedisse. **Pen.** Immo hércle uero nós, non falsum
dícere.

Men. Séd ego illam non cóndonauí, séd sic utendám
dedi.

Mat. Équidem ecastor tuám nec chlamydem dó foras nec
pállium

Quoíquam utendum. Múlierem aequomst uéstimentum
múliebre

Dáre foras, uirúm uirile. Quín refers pallám domum? 660

Men. Égo faxo referétur. **Mat.** Ex re túa, ut opinor,
féceris:

Nám domum numquam íntrod ibis, nísi feres pallám simul.
Éo domum. **Pen.** Quid míhi futurumst, quí tibi hanc
operám dedi?

Mat. Ópera reddetúr, quando quid tíbi erit surruptúm
domo.

Pen. Íd quidem edepol núnquam erit: nam níhil est,
quod perdám, domi. 665

Quá uirum qua uxórem di uos pérđant. Properabo ád
forum:

Nam éx hac familiá me plane éxcidisse intéllego.

Men. Mále mi uxor sesé fecisse cénset, quom exclusít
foras:

Quási non habeam, quo íntro mittar, álium meliorém
locum.

Sí tibi displiceó, patiundum: at plácuiero huic Erótio. 670

Men. I swear to you, wife, by Jupiter and all the gods — is n't that enough for you ? — I did n't give it.

Pen. But we swear, by Hercules indeed, that we are telling the truth.

Men. But I did n't give it away for good, but simply lent it to be used.

Wife. Well, in faith, I don't give away your cape or cloak to any one to use. It is right for the woman to give away woman's clothing; the man the man's. Why don't you bring the mantle home ?

Men. I'll warrant you it shall be brought home.

Wife. You will do it, as I think, for your own sake ; for you shall never enter the house unless you bring the mantle with you. I'm going home.

Pen. What is going to be done for me, who has done you this favor ?

Wife. The favor will be returned when anything is stolen from your house (*she goes in*).

Pen. Well, by heavens, that will never be, for I have nothing at home to lose. May the gods destroy both man and wife ! I'll be off to the Forum, for I see plainly that I have fallen out with this family (*exit*).

Men. (*Soliloquizes.*) My wife thinks she has spited me, when she shuts me out of doors. Just as if I did n't have another better place to go (*shaking his fist at the door*). If I displease you, I must endure it ; but I shall please Erotium here.

Quaé me non exclúdet ab se, séd apud se occludét domi.
 Núnc ibo, orabo út mihi pallam réddat, quam dudúm dedi.
 Áliam illi redimám meliorem. Heus, écquis hic est iánitor?
 Áperite atque Erótium aliquis éuocate ante óstium.



SCAENA III.

EROTIVM. MENAECHMVS I.

Ero. Quís hic me quaerit? **Men.** Síbi inimicus mágis
 quist quam aetatif tuae. 675

Ero. Mí Menaechme, cúr ante aedis ástas? Sequere intró.

Men. Mane.

Scín quid est, quod ego ád te uenio? **Ero.** Scío, ut tibi
 ex me sít uolup.

Men. Ímmo edepol pallam íllam, amabo té, quam tibi
 dudúm dedi,

Míhi eam redde : uxór rescuiit rem ómnem, ut factumst,
 órdine.

Égo tibi redimám bis tanto plúris pallam, quóm uoles. 680

Ero. Tíbi dedi equidem illam, ád phrygionem út ferres,
 pauló prius,

Ét illud spinter, út ad aurificem férres, ut fierét nouom.

Men. Míhi tu ut dederis pállam et spinter? Númquam
 factum réperies.

Nam égo quidem postquam íllam dudum tíbi dedi atque
 abii ád forum,

She will not shut me out away from her, but will shut me up in the house with her. Now I shall go and ask her to return the mantle that I just gave to her. I'll buy her another better one. (*At the door of EROTIIUM's house.*) Hallo! is there any door-keeper here? Open, and some one call Erotium to the door.



SCENE III.

Enter EROTIIUM from her house.

Ero. Who seeks me here?

Men. One more unfriendly to himself than to you.

Ero. My dear Menaechmus, why do you stand before the door? Follow me inside.

Men. Wait, do you know why I come to you?

Ero. I know, that you may enjoy yourself with me.

Men. No, not at all; that mantle which I just gave you, I beg you to return to me. My wife has found out the whole thing just as it happened. I will buy you one worth twice as much, when you wish it.

Ero. Indeed, I gave the mantle to you a little while ago, that you might take it to the embroiderer's; and I gave you a bracelet to take to the goldsmith's to have it made over.

Men. Did you really give me the mantle and bracelet? You'll find it was never done; for I indeed, after I gave it to you a while ago, went off to the Forum, and am just

Núnc redeo, nunc té postillac uídeo. **Ero.** Video, quám
rem agis : 685

Quaé conmisi, ut mé defrudes, ád eam rem adfectás uiam.

Men. Néque edepol te défrudandi caúsa posco : quín tibi
Díco uxorem résciuisse. **Ero.** Néc te ultro oraui út
dares :

Túte ultro ad me détulisti, dédisti eam donó mihi :
Eándem nunc repóscis. Patiar : tíbi habeto, aufer : útere 690
Vél tu, uel tua úxor, uel etiam ín loculos compíngite.
Tu húc post hunc diém pedem intro nón feres, ne frústra
sis :

Quándo tu me béne merentem tíbi habes despícatui.
Nísi feres argéntum, frustra's : mé ductare nón potes.
Áliam posthac ínuenito, quám habeas frustrátui. 695
Men. Nímis hercle iracúnde tandem. Heús tu, tibi dicó,
mane.

Rédi. Etiamne astás ? etiam audes meá reuorti grátia ?
Ábiit intro, oclúsit aedis. Núnc ego sum exclusíssumus :
Néque domi neque ápod amicam míhi iam quidquam cré-
ditur.

Íbo et consulam hánc rem amícos, quíd faciundum cén-
seant. 700

returning, and now see you for the first time since then.

Ero. I see what you are up to; you are trying to find a way to cheat me out of what you gave me.

Men. By my faith, I don't ask this in order to cheat you, but I tell you my wife has found it out.

Ero. I did not ask you to give me the mantle, you voluntarily brought it to me. You gave it to me as a gift. Now you ask it back. I shall permit you to take it. Keep it for yourself. Take it away. Use it, either you or your wife, or lock it up in your chest. Don't flatter yourself! After to-day you shall never put foot in here, since you despise me, who deserve so much at your hands. Unless you bring money, you are left out in the cold. You can't fool me. Find some other woman to deceive (*she goes into the house*).

Men. In sooth, at last quite angry. Hallo, you! I say, wait! Come back! Won't you even stop? Won't you even turn around for my sake? She has gone in. She has shut the doors. Now I am very muchly shut out; and now I'm not believed at all, either at home nor with my mistress. I'll go and consult my friends in regard to this matter, as to what they think ought to be done. (*Exit.*)

ACTVS IV.

SCAENA I.

MENAECHMVS II. MATRONA.

Men. Nimis stúlte dudum féci, quom marsúppium
Messénioni cum árgento concrédidi.

Immérsit aliquo sése credo in gáneum.

Mat. Prouísam, quam mox uír meus redeát domum.

Sed éccum uideo: sálua sum, pallám refert. 705

Men. Demíror, ubi nunc ámbulet Messénio.

Mat. Adíbo atque hominem accípíam quibus dictís meret.

Non té pudet prodíre in conspectúm meum,
Flagítium homonis, cum ístoc ornatú? **Men.** Quid est?

Quae té res agitat, múlíer? **Mat.** Etiamne, ínpudens, 710
Mutíre uerbum unum aúdes aut mecúm loqui?

Men. Quid tándem admisi in me, út loqui non aúdeam?

Mat. Rogás me? o hominis ínpudentem audáciam.

Men. Non tú scis, mulier, Hécubam quaproptér canem
Graii ésse praedicábant? **Mat.** Non equidém scio. 715

Men. Quia idém faciebat Hécuba, quod tu núnc facis.
Omnía mala ingerébat, quemquem aspéxerat:

Itaque ádeo iure coépta appellaríst canes.

Mat. Non égo istaec tua flagítia possum pérpeti:

Nam méd aetatem uíduam hic esse máuelim, 720
Quam istaec flagitia túa pati, quae tú facis.

ACT IV.

SCENE I.

Enter MENAECHEMUS SOSICLES from the Forum, and immediately afterward, the WIFE of MENAECHEMUS of Epidamnus enters from her house.

Men. Sos. (*Soliloquizes.*) I acted very foolishly awhile ago, when I entrusted the purse with the money to Messenio. He has, I suppose, slipped into some low house.

Wife. I'll look out to see how soon my husband is coming back home. But, ah! I see him. I am saved; he is bringing back the mantle.

Men. Sos. I wonder where Messenio is strolling about now?

Wife. I'll go and welcome the man with such language as he deserves. Are n't you ashamed to appear in my sight, you scandal of a fellow, with that costume?

Men. Sos. What is it; what disturbs you, woman?

Wife. Do you dare to mutter even a single word, impudence! or speak to me?

Men. Sos. What, pray, have I done, that I dare not speak to you?

Wife. Do you ask me? Oh! the shameless insolence of the man!

Men. Sos. Do you know, woman, why the Greeks used to say that Hecuba was a dog?

Wife. Indeed, I don't know.

Men. Sos. Because Hecuba used to do the same thing that you are now doing; she used to heap all sorts of insults on whomsoever she met, and therefore justly she began to be called a dog.

Wife. I'll not stand this shameless conduct of yours! I would prefer to live here as a widow all my life rather than endure the insults that you heap upon me.

Men. Quid id ád me, tu te núptam possis pérpeti,
An sís abitura a tuó uiro? An mos híc itast,
Peregríno ut adueniénti narrent fábulas?

Mat. Quas fábulas? Non, ínquam, patiar praéterhac, 725
Quin uídua uiuam, quám tuos more pérferam.

Mat. Meá quidem hercle caúsa uidua uúito
Vel úsque dum regnum óptinebit Iúppiter.

Mat. Ne istúc mecastor iám patrem arcessám meum
Atque eí narrabo túa flagitia quae facis. 730

Ei, Décio, quaere meúm patrem, tecúm simul
Vt uéniat ad me: ita rém natam esse dícito.

Iam ego áperiam istaec túa flagitia. **Men.** Sánan es?

Quae méa flagitia? **Mat.** Pállas atque aurúm meum
Domó suppilas tú tuae uxori ét tuae 735
Degéris amicae. Sátin haec recte fábulor?

Men. Heu, hércle, mulier, múltum et audax ét mala es.
Tun tíbi hanc surruptam dícere audes, quám mihi
Dedit ália mulier, út concinnandám darem?

Mat. Haud míhi negabas dúdum surrupuísse te: 740
Nunc eándem ante oculos áttines? Non té pudet?

Men. Quaeso hércle, mulier, sí scis, monstra quód bibam,
Tuám qui possim pérpeti petulántiam.

Quem tú med hominem esse árbitrere, néscio:
Ego té simitu nóui cum Portháone. 745

Mat. Si mé derides, át pol illum nón potes,
Patrém meum, qui huc áduenit. Quin réspicis?
Nouístin tu illum? **Men.** Nóui cum Calchá simul:
Eodém die illum uídi, quo te ante húnct diem.

Men. Sos. What's that to me, whether you can stand it to live in wedlock or are going to separate from your husband? Is such the custom here, to talk gossip to a stranger as soon as he meets you?

Wife. What gossip? I will not, I say, bear it any longer, but will live as a widow rather than put up with your behavior.

Men. Sos. By Hercules, as far as I at least am concerned, you may live as a widow even as long as Jupiter retains the kingship!

Wife. In Castor's name I shall certainly summon my father immediately and tell him of the outrages that you perpetrate. (*Calls into the house.*) Go, Decio, hunt up my father, and have him come with you to me. Tell him that I need him. (*Decio enters from the house and goes out to the right.* To MENAECHEMUS.) I'll expose those wicked acts of yours.

Men. Sos. What wicked acts of mine?

Wife. You steal mantles and gold from your wife at home, and carry them off to your mistress. Do I state these points quite correctly?

Men. Sos. Bah! by heavens, woman, you are very insolent and wicked. Do you dare say this was stolen from you, which another woman gave to me to have trimmed?

Wife. Awhile ago you did not deny that you had stolen it from me. Do you bring the same thing before my eyes now? Are n't you ashamed of yourself?

Men. Sos. In sooth, woman, if you can, give me some patience potion that I may be able to endure your insolence. What man you think I am, I know not. I got acquainted with you at the same time that I did with Porthaon.

Wife. (*Seeing her father coming*) Even if you mock me, still you surely cannot mock him, my father, who is coming hither. Why don't you look back? Don't you know him?

Men. Sos. I know him as well as I do Calchas. I saw him the same day on which I saw you before to-day.

Mat. Negás nouisse mé? negas patrém meum? 750

Men. Idem hércle dicam, sí auom uis addúcere.

Mat. Ecástor pariter hóc atque alias rés soles.



SCAENA II.

SENEX. MATRONA. MENAECHMVS II.

Sen. Vt aétas meást atque ut hóc usus fáctost,

Gradúm proferám, progredíri properábo.

Sed íd quam mihí facile síť, haud sum fálsus. 755

Nam pérnícitás deserít: consitús sum

Senéctute: onústum geró corpus: uíres

Relíquere. Ut aétas mala mérs est mala térgo!

Nam rés plurumás pessumás, quom aduenít,

Adfert, quas si autumem ómnis, nimís longus sérmot. 760

Sed haéc res mihi ín pectore ét corde cúraest,

Quidnam hóc sit negóti, quod fília sic

Repénte expetít med, ut ád sese irem.

Néc quid id síť mihi, cértius facit,

Quód uelit, quod méd arcessat. 765

Verúm propemodúm iam sció, quid siét rei:

Credó cum uiró litigiúm natum esse áliquod.

Ita ístaec solént, quae uirós subseruíre

Sibí postulánt, dote frétae, feróces.

Et illi quoque haúd abstinént saepe cúlpa. 770

Wife. Do you deny that you know me? Do you deny that you know my father?

Men. Sos. By Hercules, I shall say the same thing, if you want to bring on your grandfather.

Wife. By Castor, you act in this just as you do in other matters.



SCENE II.

Enter an OLD MAN.

Old Man. (*Soliloquizes.*) As much as my age permits, and because I must do so, I quicken my pace and hasten on. But as to how easy it is for me I am not deceived, for my nimbleness forsakes me, I am beset with old age. My body is weighed down with years, my strength has left me. What a heavy pack is heavy old age on one's back! for when it comes, it brings very many very serious troubles. If I should name all, my speech would be too long.

But I am greatly troubled in mind and heart as to what it means that my daughter so suddenly desires me to come to her. And she does not inform me what she wishes, why she summons me. But now I almost know what it is. I suppose some quarrel with her husband has occurred. Such is the custom of these women who insolently relying upon their dowries ask that their husbands be subservient to them. And the husbands are often not free from fault; but never-

Verúmst modus tamén, quoad pati úxorem opórtet,
 Nec pól filia úmquam patrem árcessit ád se,
 Nisi aút quid commísit uir aút iurgi est caúsa.
 Sed íd quicquid ést, iam sciam. Átque eccam eámpse
 Ante aédis et éius uirúm uideo trístem. 775

Id ést, quod suspicábar.

Áppellabo hanc. **Mat.** Íbo aduorsum. Sálue multum,
 mí pater.

Sen. Sálua sis. saluén aduenio? Sáluen arcessí iubes?
 Quid tu tristis és? quid ille autem ábs te iratus déstitit?
 Nescio quid uos uélitati éstis inter uós duo. 780

Lóquere, uter meruístis culpam, paúcis: non longós logos.

Mat. Núsquam equidem quicquám deliqui: hoc primum
 te absoluó, pater:

Vérum uiuere híc non possum néque durare ulló modo:

Proín tu me hinc abdúcas. **Sen.** Quid istuc aútemst.

Mat. Ludibrió, pater,

Hábeor. **Sen.** Vnde? **Mat.** Ab íllo, quói me mándauisti, meó uiro. 785

Sen. Écce autem litígium. Quotiens tándem ego edixí tibi,
 Vt caueres, neúter ad me irétis cum querimónia?

Mat. Quí ego ístuc, mi páter, cauere póssum? **Sen.**
 Men intérrogas?

Nísi non uis. . . . Quotiéns monstraui tíbi, uiro ut morém
 geras?

Quíd ille faciat, né id obserues, quó eat, quid rerum gerat. 790

Mat. Át enim ille hinc amáat merétricem ex próximo.

Sen. Sané sapit:

theless, there is a limit up to which a woman ought to endure, and in truth, a daughter never summons her father to her, unless her husband has done her an injustice that gives reason for the strife. But whatever it is, I shall soon know. But, lo! I see her before the door, and her husband, who is in a bad humor. It is as I suspected; I'll speak to her.

Wife. I shall go to meet him. Health to you, Father.

Old Man. Health to you! Do I find you in health; do you in health have me summoned? Why are you glum; and why, too, does he in anger stand apart from you? You two have been squabbling about something. Tell me in a few words which of you deserves blame; no long stories!

Wife. I have not been at all remiss. Free your mind of that idea at once, Father; but I cannot live here, nor put up with this in any way. Do you, therefore, take me away from here.

Old Man. But what does this mean?

Wife. I am made sport of, Father.

Old Man. By whom?

Wife. By him, to whom you gave me, my husband.

Old Man. Hallo! a quarrel indeed! How often, pray, have I told you to be careful that neither of you should be coming to me with complaints!

Wife. How can I, Father, be careful of that?

Old Man. Do you ask me? I' Pollux' name, if you were wise, you would know well enough for yourself what ought to be done, unless you did not wish to know. How many times have I told you that you should yield to your husband? Don't be watching what he does, where he goes, what his business is.

Wife. But, indeed, he is making love to a woman close by here.

Old Man. He is indeed wise, and on account of that busy

Átque ob instanc indústriam etiam fáxo amabit ámplius.

Mat. Átque ibi potat. **Sen.** Tuá quidem ille caúsa potabít minus,

Sí illic, siue alibí lubebit? Quae haéc malum impudéntiast? Vna opera prohibére, ad cenam né promittat, póstules, 795 Néue quemquam accípiat alienum ápod se. Seruirín tibi Póstulas uirós? Dare unad ópera pensum póstules, Ínter ancillás sedere iúbeas, lanam cárere.

Mat. Nón equidem mihi te áduocatum, páter, adduxi, séd uiro:

Hínc stas, illim caúsam dicis. **Sen.** Sí ille quid delíquerit, 800

Múlto tanto illum áccusabo, quám te accusaui, ámplius.

Quándo te auratam ét uestitam béne habet, ancillás, penum Récte praehibet, méliust sanam, múlter, mentem súmere.

Mat. Át ille suppilát mihi aurum et pállas ex arcís domo: Mé despoliat, mea órnamenta clam ád meretrices dégerit. 805

Sen. Mále facit, si istúc facit: si nón facit, tu mále facis, Quae ínsontem insimulés. **Mat.** Quin etiam núnc habet pallám, pater,

Ét spinter, quod ad hánc detulerat: núnc, quia rescíuí, refert.

Sen. Iám ego ex hoc, ut fáctumst, scibo: adíbo ad hominem atque ádloquar.

Díc mi istuc, Menaéchme, quid uos díscertatis, út sciam. 810 Quíd tu tristis és? quid illa autem ábs te irata déstitit?

Men. Quísquis es, quicquíd tibi nomen ést, senex: sum-múm Iouem

meddling of yours, I'll warrant he will love her even more.

Wife. And he drinks there.

Old Man. Will he, indeed, for your sake, drink less, either there or elsewhere, if he chooses? What impudence is this, confound it! By the same reasoning you may demand the right of prohibiting him from accepting an invitation to dine, or from receiving any one at his house. Do you demand that husbands be subservient to you? By the same reasoning you may demand the right of assigning him a task; you may order him to sit down among the maid-servants and card wool.

Wife. I have brought you, Father, as an advocate not indeed for myself but for my husband. You stand on my side, you plead his case.

Old Man. If he has been remiss in anything, I'll censure him more than I have censured you. Since he provides you well with jewelry and clothing, and supplies you fully with maids and with provisions, it is better, woman, to entertain reasonable sentiments.

Wife. But he steals gold and mantles of mine from the chests at home; he robs me, and secretly carries my ornaments to courtesans.

Old Man. He does wrong if he does that; if he does not, you do wrong in accusing an innocent man.

Wife. But even now he has the mantle, Father, and the bracelet which he had taken away to her. Now, because I found it out, he brings it back.

Old Man. I shall soon know from him what has been done; I'll go to the man and speak to him (*he approaches MENAECHEMUS*). Tell me this, Menaechmus, that I may know: what are you two quarrelling about; why are you in ill-humor; why does she, too, stand apart from you in anger?

Men. Sos. Whoever you are, whatever your name is, old man, I offer as witnesses Supreme Jupiter and the gods—

Deósque do testís. **Sen.** Qua de re aut quóius rei rerum
ómnium?

Men. Mé neque isti mále fecisse múlieri, quae me árguit
Hánc domo ab se súrrupuisse 815
. ábstulisse déierat.

Sí ego intra aedes húius umquam, ubi hábitat, penetrauí
pedem,

Ómnium hominum exópto ut fiam míserorum misérrumus.

Sen. Sánun es, qui istúc exoptes, aút neges te umquám
pedem

Ín eas aedis íntulisse ubi hábitas, insaníssume? 820

Men. Túu, senex, aís habitare méd in illisce aédibus?

Sen. Tú negas? **Men.** Nego hércle uero. **Sen.** Immo
hércle ridiculé negas;

Nísi quo nocte hac éxmigrasti. Cóncede huc sis, fília.

Quíd tu ais? num hinc éxmigrastis? **Mat.** Quem in
locum aut quam ob rem, óbsecro?

Sen. Nón edepol sció. **Mat.** Profecto lúdit te hic: non
tú tenes? 825

Iám uero, Menaéchme, satis iocátu's: nunc hanc rém gere.

Men. Quaéso, quid mihi técumst? unde aut quis tu
homo's? sanán tibi

Méns est aut adeo ísti, quae moléstast mihi quoquó modo?

Mat. Víden tu illic oculós liuere? Ut uíridis exoritúr
colos

Éx temporibus átque fronte: ut óculi scintillánt, uide. 830

Men. Heí mihi, insaníre me aiunt, últro quom ipsi in-
sániunt.

Old Man. Why, or for what reason of all reasons ?

Men. Sos. That I never did harm to this woman who accuses me of having stolen this (*holding up the mantle*) from her, and who swears that I carried it off. If ever I have put foot within the house where she lives, I desire that of all miserable men I may be the most miserable.

Old Man. Are you sane to desire that, or do you deny that you ever put foot in that house where you live, you wildest of madmen ?

Men. Sos. Do you, old man, say that I live in that house ?

Old Man. Do you deny it ?

Men. Sos. By heavens, I do in truth deny it.

Old Man. No, by heavens, you do in joke deny it, unless you have moved somewhere in the night. Daughter, this way, please ; what say you ? Have you moved from here ?

Wife. To what place, or for what reason, I pray you ?

Old Man. In truth I don't know.

Wife. Surely he is mocking you ; don't you understand ? Now, certainly, Menaechmus, you have joked enough ; consider the business in hand.

Men. Sos. I beg you, what business have I with you ? (*To the OLD MAN.*) Whence come you, or who are you ? Have you a sound mind, or has she indeed, who is troublesome to me in every way ?

Wife. Do you see how livid his eyes are ? See how the green color is mounting to his temples and forehead. How his eyes flash !

Men. Sos. Ah me ! they say I am crazy, when in reality they themselves are crazy. (*Aside.*) Since they say I am in-

Quíd mihi meliust quám ut, quando illi me ínsanire
praédicant,

Égomet me adsimulem ínsanire, ut íllos a me apstérream?

Mat. Vt pandiculans óscitatur. Quíd nunc faciam, mí
pater?

Sen. Cóncede huc, mea gnáta, ab istoc quám potest lon-
gíssume. 835

Men. Eúoe Bacche: heu, Brómie, quo me in síluam ue-
natúm uocas?

Aúdio, sed nón abire póssum ab his regiónibus:

Íta illa me ab laeuá rabiosa fémína adseruát canis:

Póste autem illic hírcus caluos, quí saepe aetate ín sua
Pérdidit ciuem ínnocentem fálso testimonío. 840

Sen. Vaé capiti tuo. **Men.** Écce Apollo mi éx oraclocl
ímperat,

Vt ego illic oculós exuram lámpadibus ardéntibus.

Mat. Périi, mi patér: minatur míhi oculos exúrere.

Sen. Fília, heus. **Mat.** Quid ést? quid agimus? **Sen.**
Quíd, si ego huc seruós cito?

Íbo, adducam qui húncc hinc tollant ét domi deuínci-
ant, 845

Príus quam turbarúm quid faciat ámplius. **Men.** Enim
haéreo:

Ni óccupo aliquod míhi consílium, hí domum me ad se
aúferent.

Púgnis me uotás in huius óre quicquam párcere,

Ní iam ex meis oculís abscedat máxumam in malám cru-
cem?

sane, what is better for me than to pretend that I am insane? So be it. I'll play the madman and scare the fools away.

(He yawns.)

Wife. Do you see how he stretches himself and yawns? What shall I do now, Father?

Old Man. Come here, daughter, as far away from him as possible.

Men. Sos. *(Begins to rave.)* Euoi, Bacchus! heu Bromius! Whither dost thou call me into the forest to the chase? I hear, but I cannot get away from this place, so closely does that mad dog watch me on the left, and behind her is that bald-headed billy-goat, who has often in his life destroyed an innocent citizen by false testimony.

Old Man. *(Shaking his cane.)* Woe to your head!

Men. Sos. Lo! Apollo bids me by his oracle to burn out her eyes with blazing firebrands.

Wife. I am lost, Father; he threatens to burn out my eyes.

Old Man. Ho, daughter!

Wife. What is it? What are we to do?

Old Man. Suppose I call the servants. I'll go and get men to carry him away and to bind him at home, before he does more mischief.

Men. Sos. *(Aside)* Indeed I'm stuck. Unless I devise some scheme for myself they will carry me off to their house. *(He begins to rave.)* Dost thou forbid that I spare my fists at all on her face, unless she immediately gets out of my sight,

Fáciar quod iubés, Apollo. **Sen.** Fúge domum quantúm
potest, 850

Ne híc te obtundat. **Mat.** Fúgio. Amabo, ádserua istunc
mí pater,

Né quo hinc abeat. Súmne ego mulier mísera, quae illaec
aúdio ?

Men. Haúd male illanc á me amoui. Núnc hunc impurís-
sumum,

Bárbatum, tremulúm Tithonum, quí cluet Cucinó patre,
Íta mihi imperás, ut ego huius mémbra atque ossa atque
ártua 855

Cómminuam illo scípione, quem ípse habet. **Sen.** Dabi-
túr malum,

Mé quidem si attígeris aut si própíus ad me accésseris.

Men. Fáciar quod iubés : securim cápíam ancípitem
atque hunc senem

Ósse fini dédolabo ássulatim ei uíscera.

Sen. Énim uero illud praécauendumst átque adcurandúm
mihi. 860

Sáne ego illum metuo, út minatur, né quid male faxít
mihi.

Men. Múlta mihi imperás, Apollo. Núnc equos iunctós
iubes

Cápere me indomitós, ferocis, átque in currum inscéndere,
Vt ego hunc proterám leonem uétulum, olentem, edén-
tulum.

Iam ádstiti in currúm : iam lora téneo, iam stimulum ín
manu.

to utter and awful destruction? I shall do as thou biddest, Apollo.

Old Man. Run home as soon as you can, lest he beat you.

Wife. I fly. I pray you, watch him, Father, lest he get away from here. Am I not a miserable woman, who hear these things? (*She goes into her house.*)

Men. Sos. I have rid myself of her skilfully. Now for this filthy, bearded, tottering Tithonus, so-called son of Cygnus. Thou dost command me to smash his limbs and bones and joints with the staff that he himself carries.

Old Man. (*Brandishing his cane.*) You'll get a beating, if you even touch me, or if you come nearer to me.

Men. Sos. (*Rushing to the other side of the stage.*) I shall do as thou dost order; I shall take the double-edged axe and hew into bits the vitals of this old man clear to the bone.

Old Man. Indeed I must look out for that and take care of myself. I really am afraid he may do me some harm, as he threatens.

Men. Sos. Thou dost give me many commands, Apollo. Now thou dost order me to take yoked horses, unbroken, high-spirited, and to mount into the chariot that I may trample down this old, stinking, toothless lion. (*He pretends to be in a chariot.*) Now I stand in the chariot, (*stretches forward his left hand*) now I hold the reins, (*raises his right hand*) now the whip is in my hand. Go, horses, let us hear the

Ágite equi, facitóte sonitus úngularum appáreat:

Cúrsu celeri fácite inflexa sít pedum pernícitas.

Sen. Míhin equis iunctís minare? **Men.** Écce, Apollo,
dénuo

Mé iubes facere ínpetum in eum, qui híc stat, atque occí-
dere.

Séd quis hic est, qui mé capillo hínc de curru dérípít? 870

Ímperium tuóm demutat átque edictum Apóllinis.

Sen. Heu, hércle morbum acútum. Di, uostrám fidem:

Vel híc, qui insanit, quám ualuit pauló prius.

Ei dérepente tántus morbus íncidit.

Eibo átque arcessam médicum iam quantúm potest. 875

Men. Iamne ísti abierunt quaéso ex conspectú meo,

Qui uí me cogunt, út ualidus insániam?

Quid céssó abire ad náuem, dum saluó licet?

Vosque ómnis quaeso, sí senex reuénérít,

880

Ne me índicetis, quá platea hinc aufúgerim.

sound of your hoofs, show your swiftness by rapid flight.

Old Man. Do you threaten me with yoked horses?

Men. Sos. Ho, Apollo! again dost thou order me to make an attack on him who stands here, and to kill him. (*Puts his hand to the back of his head.*) But who is pulling me out of the chariot by the hair? He changes thy mandate, O Apollo!
•(*He reels and falls.*)

Old Man. (*Approaching him cautiously.*) Alas, in truth a serious disorder! Ye gods, by your faith, how quickly the strength of puny man perishes! A little while ago, how vigorous was this man, who is now insane! So serious a disorder has suddenly come upon him. I'll go and call a doctor now as soon as possible. (*Exit.*)

Men. Sos. (*Recovering.*) I pray, have they now gone out of my sight, who compel me by force to become insane, when I am well? Why do I hesitate to go to the ship while I may in safety, (*to the audience*) and I beg of you all, if the old man should come back, don't tell on me, by what street I have fled. (*Exit.*)

ACTVS V.

SCAENA I.

SENEX.

Lumbí sedendod, óculi spectandó dolent,
 Manéndo medicum, dúm se ex opere récipiat.
 Odiósus tandem uíx ab aegrotís uenit.
 Ait se óbligasse crús fractum Aesculápio,
 Apóllini autem brácchium. Nunc cógito,
 Vtrúm me dicam dúcere medicum án fabrum.
 Atque éccum incedit. Móue fornicinúm gradum.

885



SCAENA II.

MEDICVS. SENEX.

Med. Quid illi ésse morbi díxeras? narrá, senex.
 Num láruatus aút cerritust? fác sciam.
 Num eúm ueternus aút aqua intercús tenet?

890

Sen. Quin eá te causa dúco, ut id dicás mihi
 Atque illum ut sanum fácias. **Med.** Perfacile íd quidemst.
 Sanúm futurum, méa ego id promittó fide.

ACT V.

SCENE I.

Enter the OLD MAN from the Forum.

Old Man. My limbs are aching from sitting, my eyes from watching, while waiting for the doctor to get away from his business. At last, with much ado, the contemptible fellow comes from his patients. He says he had to set a broken leg for Aesculapius or an arm for Apollo. Now I wonder whether I ought to say that I am bringing a doctor or an artisan. (*Sees the PHYSICIAN.*) But, lo, he comes. Hurry that ant's pace!



SCENE II.

Enter PHYSICIAN.

Phy. What disease did you say he has? Tell me, old man, is he possessed of spirits or is he insane? Let me know. Has he paralysis or dropsy?

Old Man. Why, I summon you to tell me that and to make him well.

Phy. That indeed is very easy. He shall be well, I promise you that on my honor.

Sen. Magná cum cura ego illum curarí uolo. 895

Med. Quin sóspitabo plús sescentos ín dies.

Ita illum cum cura mágna curabó tibi.

Sen. Atque éccum ipsum hominem. **Med.** Ópseruemus,
quám rem agat.



SCAENA III.

MENAECHMVS I. SENEX. MEDICVS.

Men. Édepol ne hic diés peruorsus átque aduorsus mi
óptigit:

Quaé me clam ratús sum facere, ea ómnia hic fecít palam 900

Párasitus, qui mé conpleuit flágiti et formídinis,

Méus Vlixes, suó qui regi tántum conciuít mali:

Quém ego hominem, sí quidem uiuo, uítad euoluám sua.

Séd ego stultus súm, qui illius ésse dico, quaé meast:

Meó cibo et sumptu éducatust: ánima priuabó uirum. 905

Cóndigne autem haec méretrix fecit, út mos est meretrícus:

Quía rogo pallam, út referatur rúrsum ad uxorém meam,

Míhi se ait dedísse. Heu, edepol né ego homo uiuó miser.

Sen. Aúdin quae loquitúr? **Med.** Se miserum praédi-
cat. **Sen.** Adeás uelim.

Med. Sáluos sis, Menaéchme. quaeso, cúr apertas brác-
chium?

910

Nón tu scis, quantum ísti morbo núnc tuo faciás mali?

Men. Quín tu te suspéndis? **Sen.** Ecquid séntis?

Med. Quid ni séntiam?

Old Man. I wish him attended with great care.

Phy. Yes, indeed, I'll make him a sound man for ever so long, with such care I shall attend him for you.

Old Man. But look ! there is the man himself.

Phy. Let us watch what he does.



SCENE III.

Enter MENAECHEMUS I. of EPIDAMNUS.

Men. (*Soliloquizes.*) By Pollux, surely this has been a perverse and adverse day for me ! What I thought I was doing in secret, the parasite has made public here. He has overwhelmed me with disgrace and dismay, my Ulysses, who has caused his king so much trouble. As sure as I live, I'll spin out the thread of the fellow's life. But I am a fool to speak of that life as his, when it is my own. He is fed on my food and at my expense ; I'll deprive the man of existence. This courtesan, too, acts as befits courtesans and as their custom is. Because I ask for the mantle in order to return it to my wife, she says that she has given it to me. Ah, woe is me ! truly I am a miserable man.

Old Man. (*Apart.*) Do you hear what he says ?

Phy. (*Apart.*) He declares he is miserable.

Old Man. (*Apart.*) I wish you would go to him.

Phy. (*Approaching MENAECHEMUS.*) Good morning, Menæchmus. Pray why do you expose your arm ; don't you know how much harm you do that disorder of yours ?

Men. Won't you go and be hanged ?

Old Man. (*To PHYSICIAN.*) What, pray, do you think ?

Phy. What else should I think ? This case cannot be

Nón potest haec rés ellebori úngvine optinéríer.

Séd quid ais, Menaéchme? **Men.** Quid uis? **Med.** Díc
mihi hoc quod té rogo:

Álbum an atrum uínum potas? **Men.** Quíd tibi quaesi-
tóst opus? 915

Med. . . . **Men.** Quín tu is
in maláin crucem?

Sen. Iam hércle occepatat ínsanire prímulum. **Men.**
Quín tú rogas,

Púrpureum panem án puniceum sóleam ego esse an lúteum?
Sóleamne esse auís squamossas, píscis pennatós? **Sen.**
Papae,

Aúdin tu, ut delíramenta lóquitur? Quid cessás dare 920
Pótionis áliquíd, prius quam pércepit insánia?

Med. Máne modo: etiam pércontabor ália. **Sen.** Occi-
dis fábulans.

Med. Díc mihi hoc: solént tibi umquam óculi duri
fíeri?

Men. Quíd? tu me lucústam censes ésse, homo ignauís-
sume?

Med. Díc mihi, en umquam íntestina tíbi crepant, quod
séntias? 925

Men. Vbi satur sum, núllo crepítant: quándo esurio, túm
crepant.

Med. Hóc quidem edepol haú pro insano uérbum respon-
dít mihi.

Pérdormiscin tu úsque ad lucem? fácilin tu obdormís
cubans?

reached by ointment of hellebore. But what say you, Menaechmus?

Men. What do you want?

Phy. Tell me what I ask: do you drink white wine or dark?

Men. Why do you ask that?

Phy. It is of great importance what the color is.

Men. Why don't you go to perdition?

Old Man. Now in truth he begins to rave.

Men. Why don't you ask whether I usually eat purple or scarlet or yellow bread; whether I eat birds with scales or fishes with feathers?

Old Man. Oh my! do you hear how wildly he talks? Why do you hesitate to give him some potion before madness comes upon him?

Phy. Just wait, I'll question him a bit about other matters.

Old Man. You kill me with your talking.

Phy. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) Tell me this: do your eyes ever get hard?

Men. What, do you take me for a locust, you good-for-nothing?

Phy. In this at least he surely does not answer me like an insane man. Do you sleep soundly until daylight; do you easily go to sleep when you lie down?

Men. Pérdormisco sí

Óbdormisco sí resolui árgentum, quoi débeo. 930

Med.

Men. Quí te Iuppitér dique omnes, pércontator, pérduint.

Med. Núnc homo insaníre oceptat. De íllis uerbis cáue tibi.

Sen. Ímmo melior núnc quidemst de uérbis, prae ut dúm fuit: 935

Nám dudum uxorém suam esse aiébat rabiosám canem.

Men. Quid ego dixi? **Sen.** Insánisti, inquam. **Men.** Égone? **Sen.** Tu istic, quí mihi

Étiam me iunctís quadrigis mínitatu's prostérnere.

Men.

Sen. Égomet haec tu uídi facere: égomet haec ted árguo. 940

Men. Át ego te sacrám coronam súrrupuisse Íoui scio:

Ét ob eam rem in cárcerem ted ésse compactúm scio:

Ét postquam es emíssus, caesum uírgis sub furcá scio:

Túm patrem occidísse et matrem uéndidisse etiám scio.

Sátin haec pro sanó male dicta mále dictis respóndeo? 945

Sen. Óbsecro hercle, médice, propere, quídquid facturú's, face.

Nón uides hominem ísanire? **Med.** Scín quid facias óptumumst?

Ád me face uti déferatur. **Sen.** Ítane censes? **Med.** Quíppini?

Íbi meo arbitrátu potero cúràre hominem. **Sen.** Age, út lubet.

Men. I sleep soundly, if I have filled myself with good wine; I go to sleep, if I have paid my debts.

Phy. In this at least he surely does not answer me like an insane man. Answer me: what —

Men. May Jupiter and all the gods destroy you, Inquisitive!

Phy. Now the man begins to rave. (*To the OLD MAN.*) Look out for yourself after that speech.

Old Man. Indeed he is better now, at least in his talk, in comparison with what he was a while ago; for just now he said his wife was a mad dog.

Men. What did I say?

Old Man. You were insane, I say.

Men. I?

Old Man. You there, who even threatened to run over me with a team of horses.

Men. Did I threaten to run over you with a team of horses?

Old Man. I myself was a witness to this, I myself accuse you of it.

Men. But I know that you stole the sacred crown of Jupiter, and for that I know you were shut up in prison; then I know you killed your father, and even sold your mother. Do I return maledictions for maledictions as a sane man?

Old Man. In faith, Doctor, I pray you, hasten. Do what you are going to do. Don't you see the man is raving?

Phy. Do you know what is best for you to do? See that he is brought to my house.

Old Man. Do you think so?

Phy. Certainly, there I can attend the man as I choose.

Old Man. Well, as you please.

Med. Helleborum potábis faxo hosce áliquos uigintí dies. 950

Men. Át ego te pendéntem fodiam stímulis trigintá dies.

Med. I, árcesse homines, quí illunc ad me déferant.

Sen. Quot súnť satis?

Med. Proínde ut insaníre uideo, quáttuor, nihiló minus.

Sen. Iam híc erunt. Adsérua tu istunc, médice. **Med.**

Immo ego abibó domum,

Vť parentur, quíbus paratis ópus est. Tu seruós iube 955

Húnc ad me feránt. **Sen.** Iam ego illic fáxo erit.

Med. Abeó. **Sen.** Vale.

Men. Ábiit socerus, ábiit medicus: sólus sum. Pro Iúppiter,

Quíd illuc est, quod núnc me hisce homines ínsanire praédicant?

Nam équidem, postquam gnátus sum, numquam aégrotaui unúm diem.

Néque ego insanió neque pugnás égo nec litis coépio. 960
Sáluos saluos álios uideo: nóui homones, ádloquor.

Án illi, perperam ínsanire qui áiunt me, ipsi insániunt?

Quíd ego nunc faciám? Domum ire cúpio: at uxor nóń sinit;

Húc autem nemo íntro mittit. Nímis prouentumst néquiter.
Híc ero usque: ad nóctem sáltem, crédo, intro mittár domum. 965

Phy. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) I'll see that you drink hellebore for some twenty days.

Men. But I'll hang you up and sting you with lashes for thirty days.

Phy. (*Apart.*) Go, summon men to carry him to my house.

Old Man. (*Apart.*) How many will you need?

Phy. Inasmuch as I see he is raving, four, no less.

Old Man. They shall be here soon. You watch him, Doctor.

Phy. No, I shall go home to make ready what should be provided. Order the slaves to bring him to my house.

Old Man. I'll see that he is there immediately.

Phy. I am going. (*Exit.*)

Old Man. Farewell. (*Exit.*)

Men. (*Soliloquizes.*) My father-in-law is gone, the doctor is gone, I am alone. Oh, Jupiter! why is it that these men declare that I am insane? for indeed I have never been sick a single day since I was born, nor am I insane, nor do I begin fights and quarrels. Healthy myself, I see others in health, I recognize men, speak to them. Are not they who maliciously say that I am insane, insane themselves? What shall I now do? I want to go home, but my wife does n't allow it; moreover, no one lets me in here. I've had abominable luck. I'll stay here right along; toward night indeed, I think, I shall be let into the house. (*Stands near his door.*)

SCAENA IV.

MESSENIO. (MENAECHMVS I.)

Spectámen bonó seruo id ést, qui rem erílem,

Procúrat, uidét, collocát, cogitátque,

Vt ábsente eró rem erí diligénter

Tutétur, quam si ípse adsit, aút rectiús.

Tergúm quam gulám, crura quám uentrem opórtet 970

Potióra esse, quóí cor modéste sitúmst.

Recórdetur íd,

Qui níhili sunt, quid ís preti

Detúr ab suis erís,

Ignáuis, improbís uiris.

Verbéra, compedés,

Molaé, lassitúdo, famés, frigus dúrum :

Haec prétia sunt ignáuiæ. Id ego malum male métuo.

Proptérea bonum esse cértumst potius quám malum.

Magis múlto patior fácilius ego uerba, uérbera ódi : 980

Nimióque edo lubéntius molitúm quam molitum praehíbeo.

Proptérea eri imperium éxsequor, bene ét sedate séruo id :

Eóque exemplo séruio, tergo ín rem ut arbitro ésse.

Atque íd mihi prodest. Álii, ut esse in suám rem ducunt,
íta sint :Ego íta ero, ut me esse opórtet. Id si adhíbeam, culpam
abstíneam, 985Eró meo ut omnibus ín locis sim praésto, metuam haud
múltum.

SCENE IV.

Enter MESSENIOR, coming from the tavern.

Mes. (*Soliloquizes.*) This is the criterion of a good slave, — that he takes care of his master's business, looks after it, regulates it, makes a study of it, so that in the absence of his lord he as carefully guards the property as he would if the master himself were present, or more carefully. He whose heart is rightly placed ought to consider his back of more importance than his gullet, his legs than his stomach. Let those that are of no account consider what reward is given by masters to worthless, disreputable men. Blows, fetters, the mill, fatigue, hunger, intense cold, — these are the rewards of worthlessness.

I fear this punishment exceedingly. I very easily endure words, I despise blows, I much more willingly eat ground meal than grind the meal. Wherefore, I obey the command of my master, properly and quietly observe it. I as a slave conduct myself as I think is to the advantage of my back, and that is to my interest. Let others do as they think is to their interest; I shall do as I ought. If I maintain this principle, I shall avoid censure. As long as I am ready for my master on all occasions, I shall not be much afraid. The

Propést, quando haec mea méus erus ob fácta pretium ex-
sóluet.

Postquam ín tabernam uása et seruos cónlocaui, ut iússerat,
Ita uénio aduersum. Núnc foris pultábo, adesse ut mé sciat,
Átque eum ex hoc sálto damni sáluom ut educám foras. 990
Séd metuo ne séro ueniam dépugnato proélio.



SCAENA V.

SENEX. MENAECHMVS I. LORARI. MESSENIO.

Sen. Pér ego uobis deós atque homines díco, ut imperíum
meum

Sápienter habeátis curae, quae ímperaui atque ímpero.

Fácite illic homo iam ín medicinam ablátus sublimén siet
Nísi quidem uos uóstra crura aut látera nihili pénditis. 995
Cáue quisquam, quod illic minitetur, uóstrum flocci fécerit.
Quid státis? quid dubitátis? Iam sublímen raptum opórtuit.
Ego íbo ad medicum: praesto ero illi, quóm uenietis. **Men.**

Óccidi.

Quid hoc ést negoti? quíd illisce homines ád me currunt,
ópsecro?

Quid uóltis uos? quid quaéritatis? quíd me circumsísti-
tis?

1000

Quo rápitis me? quo fértis me? Perii. Ópsecro uostrám
fidem,

time is near when my master will reward me for this conduct. After placing the baggage and servants in the tavern, as he directed, I am coming thus to meet him. Now I'll knock at the door that he may know that I am here and that I may lead him in safety out of this mountain pass of peril. (*Knocks at EROTIUM's door.*) But I am afraid that I come too late after the battle is fought (*he steps inside*).

SCENE V.

Enter the OLD MAN and four slaves.

Old Man. By gods and men, I command you, observe carefully the directions that I have given and now give. (*Pointing to MENAECHMUS.*) Pick up that man and carry him to the doctor's house at once, unless indeed you consider your legs and sides of no value. Let no one of you care a straw for what he threatens. Why do you stand; why do you hesitate? He ought already to have been picked up and carried off. (*The slaves start toward MENAECHMUS.*) I'll go to the doctor's, I shall be ready there when you come. (*Exit. The slaves close on MENAECHMUS.*)

Men. I am undone! What does this mean; why do those men rush at me, I implore; what do you want; what are you seeking; why do you surround me? (*They seize him.*) Whither are you dragging me; whither are you carrying me? I am lost! I implore your protection,

Epidánnienses súbuenite ciues. Quin me míttitis?

Mes. Pro di ímmortales, óbsecro, quid ego óculis aspició
meis?

Erúm meum indigníssume nesció qui sublimén ferunt.

Men. Ecquís suppetias mi aúdet ferre? **Mes.** Ego, ere,
aúdeo audacíssume. 1005

O fácinus indignum ét malum,
Epidámnii ciués, erum
Meum híc in pacato óppido
Lucí derupier ín uia,
Qui líber ad uos uénerit.

Míttite istunc. **Men.** Óbsecro te, quísqi's, operam mi
út duis,

Neú sinas in me ínsignite fíeri tantam iniúriam. 1010

Mes. Ímmo operam dabo ét defendam et súbuenibo
sédulo.

Númquam te patiár perire: mé perirest aéquius.

Éripe oculum istíc, ab umero quí tenet te, ere, óbsecro.

Hísce ego iam seméntem in ore fáciam pgnosque óbseram.

Máximo hercle hodié malo uostro ístunc fertis. Míttite. 1015

Men. Téneo ego huic oculúm. **Mes.** Face ut oçuli lócus
in capite appáreat.

Vós scelestos, uós rapacis, uós praedones. **Lor.** Périimus.

Óbsecro hercle. **Mes.** Míttite ergo. **Men.** Quíd me
uobis táctiost?

Pécte pugnís. **Mes.** Ágite abite: fúgite hinc in malám
crucem.

Êm tibi etiam: quía postremus cédis, hoc praemí feres. 1020

come to my assistance, citizens of Epidamnus. (*To the slaves.*) Why don't you let me go?

Mes. (*Coming out of EROTIIUM'S house.*) O ye immortal gods! I pray you, what do my eyes behold? Some unknown fellows are most wickedly carrying off my master on their shoulders.

Men. Does any one dare bring me aid?

Mes. (*Starts for help.*) I, master, dare most boldly. Oh! disgraceful and wicked deed, citizens of Epidamnus, that my master, here in a peaceful city, in broad daylight, should be carried off on the street, who came to you a free man. (*Shouts to the slaves.*) Let him go!

Men. I implore you, whoever you are, give me aid. Do not permit such an outrage to be wickedly inflicted on me.

Mes. (*Starts to the rescue.*) Yes, I will give you aid, and defend you, and vigorously assist you. Never will I allow you to perish; 't is better that I perish. Tear out the eye of that fellow, I beg of you, master, who holds you by the shoulder. I'll make a sowing on the faces of these fellows and plant my fists. By Hercules, you are carrying this man off to your own very great misfortune. Let him go! (*Strikes them.*)

Men. (*Struggling.*) I have this fellow's eye.

Mes. Make his eye-socket show in his head. You villains! you robbers! you pirates! (*Strikes again and again.*)

Slaves. We are undone! Mercy!

Mes. Let him go, then.

Men. (*To slaves.*) Why do you touch me? (*To MESSENIO.*) Pummel them with your fists.

Mes. Get out! away with you! Go to perdition! (*Three run away.*) Here's for you too. (*He attacks the last one.*) Because you are the last to yield, you shall have this reward. (*The last slave flees, and MESSENIO returns to MENAECHEMUS.*)

Nímis bene ora cómmetaui atque éx mea senténtia.

Édepol, ere, ne tíbi suppetias témperi aduení modo.

Men. Át tibi di sempér, adulescens, quísqvis es, faciánt bene:

Nam ábsque te esset, hódie nunquam ad sólem occasum uíuerem.

Mes. Érgo edepol, si récte facias, ére, med emittás manu. 1025

Men. Líberem ego te? **Mes.** Vérum, quando equidem, ére, te seruauí. **Men.** Quid est?

Ádulescens, errás. **Mes.** Quid erro? **Men.** Pér Iouem adiuró patrem,

Méd erum tuóm non esse. **Mes.** Nón taces? **Men.** Nón méntior:

Néc meus seruos úmquam tale fécit quale tú mihi.

Mes. Síne igitur, si tuóm negas med ésse, abire líberum. 1030

Men. Meá quidem hercle caúsa liber ésto atque ito quó uoles.

Mes. Némpe iubes? **Men.** Iubeo hércle, si quid ímperíst in té mihi.

Mes. Sálué, mi patróné. Quom tu líberas me sério, Gaúdeo. **Men.** Credo hércle uero. **Mes.** Séd, patrone, te óbsecro,

Né minus nunc ímperes mihi, quám quom tuos seruós fui. 1035

Ápud ted habitabo ét, quando íbis, úna tecum ibó domum. Máne me: nunc ibo ín tabernam, uása atque argentúm tibi

I have measured off their faces well and to my liking. By Pollux, master, surely I brought you aid just in time.

Men. And may the gods always prosper you, young man, whoever you are; for if it had not been for you, I never should have lived until sunset.

Mes. Then in truth, master, if you would do right, you should free me.

Men. Should I free you?

Mes. Certainly, since I indeed have saved you, master.

Men. What does this mean? Young man, you are making a mistake.

Mes. In what am I wrong?

Men. By father Jupiter, I swear that I am not your master.

Mes. Won't you be quiet?

Men. I am not lying. No slave of mine has ever done for me what you have.

Mes. Allow me then, if you deny that I am yours, to go free.

Men. In sooth, so far as I indeed am concerned, be free, and go where you choose.

Mes. Do you really command it?

Men. Assuredly, I do command it, if I have any power over you.

Mes. Hail, patron! since you really do free me, I rejoice.

Men. In truth, I certainly believe it.

Mes. But, patron, I beg you, command me no less now than when I was your slave. I'll live with you, and when you go home I'll go with you. Wait for me. I'll now go to the tavern and bring back to you the baggage and silver. The

Réferam. Rectest óbsignatum in uídulo marsúppium
Cúm uiatico : íd tibi iam huc ádferam. **Men.** Adfer
strénue.

Mes. Sáluom tibi item, ut míhi dedisti, réddibo : tu hic
mé mane. 1040

Men. Nímia mira míhi quidem hodie exórta sunt mirís
modis.

Vél ille seruom sé meum esse aibat, quem égo modo emisí
manu.

Ís ait se mihi állaturum cum árgento marsúppium.
Íd si attulerit, dícam ut a med ábeat liber quó uolet,
Né tum, quando sánus factus sít, a me argentúm petat. 1045
Sócer et medicus me ínsanire aiébant. Quid sit, míra sunt.
Haéc nihilo esse míhi uidentur sétius quam sómnia.
Núnc ibo intro ad hánc meretricem, quámquam suscensét
mihi,
Sí possum exoráre, ut pallam réddat, quam referám domum.



SCAENA VI.

MENAECHMVS II. MESSENIO.

Men. Mén hodie usquam cónuenisse te, aúdash, audes
dícere, 1050

Póstquam aduorsum mi ímperaui ut húc uenires? **Mes.**
Quín modo

Éripui, homines quóm ferebant té sublimen quáttuor,

purse with the money for travelling is well sealed up in the bag. I'll bring it here to you at once.

Men. Bring it quickly.

Mes. I'll return it safely to you just as you gave it to me. You await me here. (*Exit toward the harbor.*)

Men. (*Soliloquizes.*) Very strange things have happened to me in strange ways. That fellow whom I just now freed said he was a slave of mine. He says he will bring me a purse with money. If he will do that, I shall say that he may be free to go where he wishes, lest as soon as he becomes sane he may demand the money of me. My father-in-law and the doctor said I was insane. Whatever it means, these things are wonderful. They seem to me to be nothing else than dreams. Now I'll go inside to this courtesan, although she is angry at me, to see if I can persuade her to return the mantle, that I may take it home. (*He goes into EROTIVM'S house.*)

SCENE VI.

Enter MENAECHEMUS SOSICLES, and MESSENIO, from the tavern.

Men. Sos. Do you dare say, brazen, that I have met you anywhere to-day since I ordered you to come here to meet me?

Mes. Why, I just now rescued you, when four men were carrying you off on their shoulders, before this house. You

Ápud hasce aedis. Tú clamabas deúm fidem atque hominum ónnium,

Quóm ego accurro téque eripio uí pugnando, ingrátiiis.

Ób eam rem, quia té seruauí, me ámisisti liberum. 1055

Quom árgentum dixí me petere et uása, tu quantúm potest

Praécucurrísti óbuíam, ut quae fécísti, infitiás eas.

Men. Líberum ego te iússi abire? **Mes.** Céрто. **Men.**

Quín certíssimumst,

Mépte potius fíeri seruom, quám te umquam emittám manu.



SCAENA VII.

MENAECHMVS I. MESSENIO. MENAECHMVS II.

Men. I. Sí uel per oculós iuratis, níhilo hercle ea causá magis 1060

Fáciétis ut ego hódie abstulerim pállam et spinter, péssumae.

Mes. Di ímmortales, quíd ego uideo? **Men. II.** Quíd uides? **Mes.** Speculúm tuom.

Men. II. Quíd negotíst? **Mes.** Túast imago: tám consimilíst quám potest.

Men. II. Pól profecto haud ést dissimilís, meám quom formam nóscito.

Men. I. Ó adulescens, sálue qui me séruauísti, quísquis es. 1065

Mes. Ádulescens, quaeso hércle, eloquere tuóm mihi nomen, nísi piget.

were imploring the protection of gods and men, when I ran to you and rescued you by vigorous fighting, in spite of them. Because I saved you, you set me free. When I said that I would go get the money and baggage, you as quickly as possible ran around to intercept me, that you might deny what you had done.

Men. Sos. Did I bid you go free?

Mes. Certainly.

Men. Sos. Why, most assuredly it is more likely that I myself should become a slave than that I should free you.



SCENE VII.

Enter MENAECHEMUS of Epidamnus from EROTIVM's house.

Men. (*To EROTIVM, in the house.*) Even if you should swear by your eyes, not the more, in sooth, by that will you prove that I stole the mantle and bracelet of you, vile creature.

Mes. Ye immortal gods! what do I see?

Men. Sos. What do you see?

Mes. Your likeness.

Men. Sos. What do you mean?

Mes. Your image; he is as like you as can be.

Men. Sos. (*Looking at MENAECHEMUS.*) In truth, he is not unlike, so far as I know my own looks.

Men. (*To MESSENIO.*) Oh, young man, greeting to you who saved me, whoever you are.

Mes. Young man, tell me your name, if you don't object?

Men. I. Nón edepol ita prómeruisti dé me, ut pigeat quae uelis

Éloqui. Mibíst Menaechmo nómen. **Men. II.** Immo edepól mihi.

Men. I. Sículus sum Syrácusanus. **Men. II.** Éadem urbs et patriást mihi.

Men. I. Quid ego ex te audio? **Men. II.** Hóc quod res est. **Mes.** Núi equidem hunc: erus ést meus. 1070

Égo quidem huius séruos sum, sed méd esse huius crédidi. Húnc censebam té esse: huic etiam éxibui negótium. Quaésó ignoscas, sí quid stulte díxi atque imprudéns tibi.

Men. II. Délirare míhi uidere. Nón commeministí semul Te hódie mecum exíre ex nauí? **Mes.** Énim uero aequom póstulas. 1075

Tú erus es: tu séruom quaere. Tú salueto: tú uale. Húnc ego esse aíó Menaechmum. **Men. I.** Át ego me. **Men. II.** Quae haec fábulast?

Tú's Menaechmus? **Men. I.** Mé esse dico, Móscho prognatúm patre.

Men. II. Tún meo patrés prognatus? **Men. I.** Ímmo equidem, adulescéns, meo.

Tuóm tibi neque óccupare néque praeripere póstulo. 1080

Mes. Di ímmortales, spem ínsperatam dáte mihi, quam súspicor.

Nám nisi me animus fállit, hi sunt gémini germaní duo: Nam ét patriam et patrém còmmemorant páríter qui fuerínt sibi.

Men. Assuredly you have deserved so well of me that I do not object to telling what you wish. My name is Menaechmus. **Men. Sos.** By Pollux, that's mine too.

Men. I am a Sicilian, of Syracuse.

Men. Sos. I am of the same city and country.

Men. What do I hear from you?

Men. Sos. That which is a fact.

Mes. (*To MENAECHEMUS SOSICLES, pointing to MENAECHEMUS.*) I indeed know this man. He is my master. I in truth am this man's slave, but (*pointing to MENAECHEMUS SOSICLES*) I thought I was this man's. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) I thought he was you; I have even caused him some trouble. (*To MENAECHEMUS SOSICLES.*) I beg your pardon if I have said anything foolish or ill-advised to you.

Men. Sos. It strikes me you are crazy. Don't you remember that you disembarked from the ship with me to-day?

Mes. Certainly your question is to the point, you are my master. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) You find a slave. (*To MENAECHEMUS SOSICLES.*) Greeting to you, (*to MENAECHEMUS*) to you farewell. I say that he [*MENAECHEMUS SOSICLES*] is Menaechmus. **Men.** But I say that I am.

Men. Sos. What is this yarn? Are you Menaechmus?

Men. I say that I am, son of my father Moschus.

Men. Sos. Are you the son of my father?

Men. Yes indeed, young man, of my father. I don't wish to seize your father and carry him off.

Mes. (*Aside.*) Ye immortal gods! grant me the unhop'd for hope that I entertain; for unless my soul deceives me, these are the twin brothers, for they speak of a country and a father that each alike had.

Séuocabo erúm. **Menaechme.** **Men. ambo.** Quid uis?

Mes. Non ambós uolo.

Séd erum : uter uostrúmst aduectus mécum naui? **Men. I.**

Nón ego.

1085

Men. II. Át ego. **Mes.** Te uolo ígitur, huc concéde.

Men. II. Concessí. Quid est?

Mes. Íllic homo hercle aut sýcophanta aut géminus est
fratér tuos.

Nám hominem hominis símiliorem númquam uidi ego
áalterum,

Néque aqua aquae neque láctest lactis, míhi crede, us-
quam símilius,

Quam híc tuist tuque húius autem ; póste eandem patriam
ác patrem

1090

Mémorat. Meliust nós adire átque hunc percontárier.

Men. II. Hércle qui tu me ádmonuisti récte et habeo
grátiam.

Pérge operam dare, ópsecro hercle. Líber esto, si ínuenis
Húnc meum fratrem ésse. **Mes.** Spero. **Men. II.** Et
égo quidem speró fore.

Mes. Quid ais tu? Menaéchmum opinor té uocari díx-
eras.

1095

Men. I. Íta uero. **Mes.** Huic itém Menaechmo nómen
est. In Sícilia

Té Syracusís natum esse díxisti : hic natúst ibi.

Móschum tibi patrém fuisse díxisti : huic itidém fuit.

Núnc operam potéstis ambo míhi dare et uobís simul.

Men. I. Prómeruisti ut né quid ores, quód uelis quin ím-
petres.

1100

I'll call my master aside. Menaechmus!

Both Menaechmi. What do you want?

Mes. I don't want both of you, but my master. Which one of you came here with me on the ship?

Men. Not I.

Men. Sos. But I.

Mes. I want you then, step aside here.

Men. Sos. I have stepped aside. What is it?

Mes. That man surely is either an impostor or he is your twin brother; for never have I seen one man more like another. Water was never more like water, nor milk like milk, believe me, than is this man like you, and you, too, like him; moreover, he speaks of the same native land and the same father. It is best that we go and interview him.

Men. Sos. In faith, you advise me rightly, and I thank you. I implore you, by Hercules, continue your investigation. You shall be free if you find that he is my brother.

Mes. I hope so.

Men. Sos. And I indeed hope it will be so.

Mes. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) What say you? I think you said you were called Menaechmus.

Men. Yes, to be sure.

Mes. This man's name is also Menaechmus. At Syracuse in Sicily you said you were born; this man was also born there. You said you had a father named Moschus, so had he. Now you can both assist me and also yourselves.

Men. You have deserved so well of me that you can ask nothing that you desire and not obtain it.

Tám quasi me emerís argento, líber seruibó tibi.

Mes. Spés mihist, uos ínuenturum frátres germanós duos

Géminos, una mátre natos ét patre uno unó die.

Men. I. Míra memoras. V́tinam efficere, quód pollicitu's, póssies.

Mes. Póssum. Sed nunc ágite, uterque id, quód rogabo, dícite. 1105

Men. I. Vbi lubet, roga: réspondebo, níl reticebo quód sciam.

Mes. Ést tibi nomén Menaechmo? **Men. I.** Fáteor.

Mes. Est itidém tibi?

Men. II. Ést. **Mes.** Patrem fuisse Moschum tíbi ais?

Men. I. Ita uero. **Men. II.** Ét mihi.

Mes. Ésne tu Syrácusanus? **Men. I.** Céрто. **Mes.**

Quid tu? **Men. II.** Quíppini?

Mes. Óptume usque adhúc conueniunt sígna. Porro ope-
rám date. 1110

Quíd longissumé meministi, díe mihi, in patriá tua?

Men. I. Cúm patre ut abíí Tarentum ád mercatum, póstea

Ínter homines mé deerrare á patre atque inde áuehi.

Men. II. Iúppiter supréme, serua mé. **Mes.** Quid clamas? quín taces?

Quót eras annos gnátus tum quom té pater a patria áuehit? 1115

Men. I. Séptuennis: nám tum dentes míhi cadebant prímulum,

I, though free, shall serve you as freely as if you had bought me with money.

Mes. I hope I shall find you are own twin brothers, born of the same father and same mother, on the same day.

Men. You speak of wonderful things. May you be able to accomplish what you have promised!

Mes. I can do it. But, come now, both of you, tell me what I ask.

Men. When you please, speak. I shall answer and conceal nothing so far as I know.

Mes. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) Is your name Menaechmus?

Men. I acknowledge it.

Mes. (*To MENAECHEMUS SOSCICLES.*) Is it yours too?

Men. Sos. It is.

Mes. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) Do you say your father was Moschus?

Men. Yes, truly.

Men. Sos. Mine too.

Mes. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) Are you a Syracusan?

Men. Undoubtedly.

Mes. (*To MENAECHEMUS SOSCICLES.*) What do you say?

Men. Sos. The same, of course.

Mes. Thus far the marks agree perfectly. Give me your attention further. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) What do you remember the farthest in the past in your native country?

Men. How I went with my father on a trading expedition to Tarentum; afterwards that I wandered away from my father among the people and was carried away from there.

Men. Sos. Supreme Jupiter, save me!

Mes. Why do you cry out? Why don't you keep quiet? (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) How old were you when your father took you away from your native land?

Men. Seven years old, for then I was losing my first teeth;

Néque patrem postíllac umquam uídi. **Mes.** Quid? uos
túm patri

Fílii quot erátis? **Men. I.** Vt nunc máxume memíní, duo.

Mes. Vter eratis, tún an ille, máior? **Men. I.** Aequé
ambó pares.

Mes. Qui íd potest? **Men. I.** Gemini ámbó eramus.

Men. II. Dí me seruátúm uolunt. 1120

Mes. Si ínterpellas, égo tacebo. **Men. II.** Pótius taceo.

Mes. Díc mihi:

Vno nomine ámbó eratis? **Men. I.** Mínime: nam mihi
hóc erat,

Quód nunc est, Menaéchmo, illum autem túm uocabant
Sósiclem.

Men. II. Sígna adgnoui: cóntineri quín complectar nón
queo.

Mí germane gémíne frater, sálueto: ego sum Sósicles. 1125

Men. I. Quó modo igitur póst Menaechmo nómen est
factúm tibi?

Men. II. Póstquam ad nos renúntiatumst te
et patrem esse mórtuom,

Áuos noster mutáuit: quod tibi nómen est, fecít mihi.

Men. I. Crédo ita esse fáctum ut dicis. Séd mi hoc re-
spondé. **Men. II.** Roga. 1130

Men. I. Quid erat nomen nóstrae matri? **Men. II.**
Teúximarchae. **Men. I.** Cónuenit.

Ó salue, insperáte, multis ánnis post quem cónspicor,
Fráter. **Men. II.** Et tu, quém ego multis míseriis, lábo-
ribus

and I have never seen my father since.

Mes. Well, how many sons had your father then ?

Men. As near as I can now remember, two.

Mes. Which was the elder, you or your brother ?

Men. We were both the same age.

Mes. How is that possible ?

Men. We two were twins.

Men Sos. The gods wish to aid me !

Mes. If you interrupt me, I shall say nothing.

Men. Sos. It is better that I say nothing.

Mes. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) Tell me, did you both have the same name ?

Men. Oh ! no, for mine was Menaechmus the same that I now have, but at that time they called him Sosicles.

Men. Sos. I accept the proof. I cannot refrain from embracing him (*rushes toward MENAECHEMUS*). My own twin brother, greeting ! I am Sosicles.

Men. How then was the name Menaechmus given to you ?

Men. Sos. When it was reported to us that you had been stolen, and when we found out at the same time that Father had died, Grandfather changed my name, giving me yours instead.

Men. I believe what you say, but answer me this.

Men. Sos. Ask it.

Men. What was our mother's name ?

Men. Sos. Teuximarcha.

Men. That settles it. All hail to you, unhopèd-for brother, whom I see after many years (*they embrace*) !

Men. Sos. And to you, for whom I have so long been seeking through many troubles and hardships, and whom

Vsque adhuc quaesivi quemque ego esse inuentum gaudeo.

Mes. Hóc erat, quod haec te meretrix huius uocabat
nómine: 1135

Hunc censebat te esse, credo, quóm uocat te ad prándium.

Men. I. Námque edepol mi hic hódie iussi prándium ad-
parárier

Clám meam uxorem: quóí quam pallam súrrupui dudúm
domo,

Eám dedi huic. **Men. II.** Hanc dícis, frater, pállam,
quam ego habeo ín manu?

Men. I. Quó modo haec ad té peruenit? **Men. II.** Mé-
retrix, quae huc ad prándium 1140

Me ábduxit, me síbi dedisse aiébat. Prandi pérbene,
Pótaui atque accúbui scortum: pállam et aurum hoc míhi
dedit

Men. I. Gaúdeo edepol, sí quid propter mé tibi euenít
boni:

Nám illa quom te ad sé uocabat, mé esse credo crédidit. 1145

Mes. Númquid me moráre, quin ego líber, ut iustí, siem?

Men. I. Óptimum atque aequíssimum orat, fráter: fac
causá mea.

Men. II. Líber esto. **Men. I.** Quóm tu's liber, gaúdeo,
Messénio.

Mes. Séd meliorest ópus auspicio, ut líber perpetuó
siem.

Men. II. Quóniam haec euenérunt nobis, fráter, ex sen-
téntia,

I rejoice to have found!

Mes. (*To MENAECHEMUS SOSICLES.*) This was the reason why the courtesan called you by his name. She thought you were he, I suppose, when she invited you to dinner.

Men. To be sure; for in truth, I ordered a dinner to be prepared here to-day without the knowledge of my wife. The mantle that I just stole from her at home I gave to this woman.

Men. Sos. Do you say, brother, that it is this mantle that I have in my hand?

Men. How did you get that?

Men. Sos. The woman that took me with her to dine here said that I had given it to her. I have dined well, I have drunk, I have banqueted with a woman. She gave me this mantle and bracelet.

Men. Indeed I rejoice if any good fortune has come to you through me; for when she invited you to her house she believed, I suppose, that you were I.

Mes. Have you any objections to my becoming free, as you ordered?

Men. He asks what is perfectly right and just, brother. Do it for my sake.

Men. Sos. (*Touching MESSENIO'S shoulder.*) Be free.

Men. I rejoice that you are free, Messenio.

Mes. But there was need of more efficient power than yours to make me free forever.

Men. Sos. Since these things have turned out as we desire,

În patriam redeámus ambo. **Men. I.** Fráter, faciam ut tú uoles.

Aúctionem hic fáciam et uendam quídquid est. Nunc interim

Eámus intro, fráter. **Men. II.** Fiat. **Mes.** Scítin quid ego uós rogo?

Men. I. Quíd? **Mes.** Praeconiúm mi ut detis. **Men. I.** Dábitur. **Mes.** Ergo núnciam 1155

Vís conclamari aúctionem fóre? **Men. I.** Equidem die séptimi.

Mes. Aúctio fiét Menaechmi máne sane séptimi.

Vénibunt seruí, supellex, fúndi et aedes. Ómnia

Vénibunt, quiquí licebunt, praésenti pecúnia.

Vénibit uxór quoque etiam, sí quis emptor uénerit. 1160

Víx credo auctióne tota cápíet quinquagénsies.

Núnc, spectatorés, ualete et nóbis clare applaúдите.

brother, let us return to our native country.

Men. Brother, I shall do as you wish. I will make an auction and sell whatever I have. Now, in the meantime, let us go into the house.

Men. Sos. Very well.

Mes. (*To MENAECHEMUS.*) Do you know what I desire of you?

Men. What?

Mes. That you make me auctioneer.

Men. It shall be done.

Mes. Do you wish then that I immediately announce that the auction will take place?

Men. Certainly, a week from to-day. (*The MENAECHEMI go inside the house.*)

Mes. (*Coming forward.*) There will be an auction of the property of Menaechmus a week from to-day in the forenoon. The slaves, the furniture, the land, the house, will be sold, — everything for what it will bring for cash down. Even his wife also will be sold. I think he will hardly realize fifty hundred thousand sesterces from the entire sale. Now, spectators, farewell, and applaud us vigorously. (*Exit.*)

Date Due

OC 13 '77

My 22 '46

FEB 20 '51

DEC 14 '53

NOV 28 '55

MAY 20 '58

DEC 17 '59

AUG 14 '60

JAN 1 '61

APR 12 '61

MAY 10 '61

FEB 13 '62

DE 14 '65

DE 2 '68

NO 27 '67

MR 26 '69

SE 30 '75

OC 13 '75

OC 13 '75



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